Return of the Phoenix

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Summary: What would happen if Harry Potter was trained before Hogwart and had family? He will be initially way stronger than other students, but it will quickly even out. Updates will be once a month. AU I don't own Harry Potter JK Rowling does

1. Chapter 1

Massive AU. What if Sirius Black was released from Azkaban when Harry was nine and decided to properly prepare him for tasks awaiting him. And especially give him proper magical education. Seriously he is a person that can be main target for almost all assasins and murders and he learned proper way to fight on his fourth year, previously he was winning mainly due to luck or idiocy of his enemies. So I will train him to owl level in offensive and defensive magic, animagus and apparition before Hogwart. He will still need to learn a lot during Hogwart, but in confrontations with Death Eaters and Voldemort he won't be defenseless and dependant on luck.

â€žMrs Bones can we talk?" asked Rufus Scrimgeour, one of leading aurors working for DMLE â€žI reviewed case of Sirius Black and I believe there were few mistakes. Also I completely checked spells casted by his wand and they're wrong. Really wrong."

â€žOf course" Replied Amelia Bones â€žTell me what you found."

â€žShould I start from legislative snafu or wand one?"

â€žLegislative"

â€žOkay. As we all know Sirius Black was arrested on day of 31st October of 1980. He was sent to Azkaban without any trial. Just straight after arrest, Barty Crouch sent him there without any trial or interrogation or even questioning under veritaserum." Said Rufus, trying to remain calm, he worked with Sirius on multiple occasions

and now his blood wanted to boil.

â€žMy God" whispered now pale Amelia. Sending someone without any sort of proper trial to Azkaban was unforgivable. After all there was a reason why it was called Hell on Earth. People were losing their sanity there, it was one of the worst places to be.

â€žThat's better part of the story. I checked all previous spells casted using Sirius Black wand and there are two missing, no Fidelius charm and no spell that could cause such explosion as one that was reported. I also did simple Math and if it was supposed to hit, where it was supposed to hit. It would go besides Peter Pettigrew. Next thing I digged out old data from Hogwart and they reported that Peter was animagus, rat form." Said Rufus, calming himself down. â€žAlso there was only his finger left, such explosion should change him into dozen pieces of meat. Strewn across whole street. And some blood, which there wasn't even single drop found, excluding area near finger."

â€žMy God" whispered even paler Amelia â€žHarry" she shouted.

â€žYes Ma'am" asked her assistant.

â€žGet me Fudge and Moody, send owl to Azkaban to bring Sirius and prepare veritaserus. Prepare form for removing Merlin Order 1st class, clearing from all charges and bring last will of James Charlus Potter, Lord of the Most Ancient and Noble House of Potter and his wife Lilly Evalyn Potter nÃ©e Evans, Lady of the Most Ancient and Noble House of Potter."

â€žAre you sure Ma'am?" asked her pale assistant.

â€žYes, I'm sure." She shouted and walked to small cabinet that was set up behind her desk. She quickly opened it, pulled out Firewhisky and poured herself small glass of it. â€žRufus?" she asked pointing at bottle.

â€žWhy not" Replied her auror and took second glass with grateful smile.

Few moments later through Floo connection in her office walked out Alastor 'Mad-Eye' Moody, and soon was joined by Minister of Magic Cornelius Fudge.

â€žAmelia, Alastor, Rufus" Murmured Fudge

â€žAlastor, Cornelius do you remember what happened after Sirius Black was arrested?" asked Amelia, shocking both people.

â€žBartemius Crouch Senior sent him to Azkaban without any trial and ignored my objections and I was one that arrested Sirius and as such I should question him first. He overruled me and tell me in not so nice words not to question him." Said Moody

â€žCorrect." Said Amelia and picked up wand laying on her desk â€žCan any of you perform Priori Incantantem on this wand. It's Sirius wand and we found weird things related to it, but I want to check it few more times."

â€žOf course" Said Moody, who picked it up and murmured formula, when he did that there were Protego, Healing Charm, Apparition, Tracking Charm, Infant Healing Charm. But no spell that could cause such explosion or Fidelius.

â€žThat's weird. He was highly trained Hit Wizard and he could kill Peter in such way that there would be no casualties. He knew Unforgivables well enough to use them, but such thing required not so fine control and simple spell." Said Cornelius and looked at parchment in front of him. â€žDead Muggles are around Sirius position, not Pettigrew. It looks like they were hit by spell deflected by Protego Maximo or Protego."

â€žExactly. I think we sent innocent to Azkaban and awarded murderer and Death Eater. I would like to question Sirius Black under veritaserus, but we can safely assume that he is innocent. So I think we can start procedure of removing Merlin Order for Pettigrew, clearing of all charges for Sirius and prepare form for taking guardianship of Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter, Heir of the Most Ancient and Noble House Potter by Sirius Orion Regulus Arcturus Black, Heir of the Most Ancient and Noble House Black." Said Amelia

â€žI agree. I will tell WOO to prepare forms for taking guardianship. I will seal them that only on need to know basis they can be accessed. Merlin Order will go through your Department Amelia. Rufus I would like you to give interview to Daily Prophet on Saturday morning. Moody could you do the same on Friday morning, so we can start making positive image of Sirius. I will tell them to publish in tomorrow edition couple of articles regarding Sirius that will show him in most positive light. On Monday we will call press conference, tell people that will be working on it, that's it's classified." Said Fudge and mentioned people nodded. Fudge wasn't the best Minister, but he was great politician and knew how to play game of politics, and how to work on press.

â€žWe forget one thing. Pettigrew." Said Moody â€žHe is animagus and has rare form. Rat. If I remember correctly Wesley's have rat as pet and it's missing one claw."

â€žI will pay them a visit with strike team. I know it's rude and impolite to apparate inside of house, but in this case it will be needed." Said Rufus

â€žI will go with you." Said Moody and both wizards rose, and walked out of room, and towards Auror offices.

â€žThat's all sorted for today. Sirius will be released today, but I will interrogate him tomorrow. I want him to relax after horrors of Azkaban." Said Amelia

â€žGood" Said Fudge â€žI will tak with Rita. Can you give her few hints, about what's incoming?"

â€žWith pleasure." Said Amelia and walked with Fudge to Daily Prophet. They demanded meeting with publishing editor of the paper, who grumbled when he was dragged from his family. But it quickly changed when he heard what story has fallen into his lap. He immediately sent reporters to ask questions about Sirius Black and started going through documents delivered by Fudge and Bones. It

looked like story of the decade and he wasn't going to let it pass. He wanted it ready to be released in early morning edition of paper.

Sirius Black, New Facts Revealed

By Rita Skeeter

Following yesterday meeting between Minister of Magic Cornelius Fudge, Alastor Moody , Rufus Scrimgeour Head Auror and Amelia Bones Head of Department of Magical Law Enforcement. Mr Fudge and Mrs Bones released joint statement. â€žWe suspect that we sent to Azkaban innocent person. New evidence that appeared is shocking and we believe that previous administration did grevious mistakes. Sirius wand was checked using Priori Incantantem and we couldn't find Fidelius charm casted using it, and as we all know. Secret Keeper of this charm is required to cast it." Said Mr Fudge. â€žI worked many times with Sirius during first war and he was powerful wizard, honorable man and first of all, he deeply cared for Potter family. He was constant guest in Potter manor that's located in Yorkshire. He was godfather of their only child and Charlus Potter was like second father to him. We can't release more details, because of their sensitivity." Added Mrs Bones.

We all remember that Sirius Black was powerful wizard that helped to arrest and kill multiple Death Eaters during first war. Here at Prophet we all hope that he will be cleared from all charges and true culprit will be found. Minister Cornelius Fudge announced joint press conference with Alastor 'Mad-Eye' Moody one of most honored aurors and one that arrested Sirius Black, Head of DMLE Amelia Bones and Head Auror Rufus Scrimgeour will be held on Monday in Ministry Press Room.

â€žSirius Orion Regulus Arcturus Black will you answer our questions under veritaserum?" asked Amelia Bones, when Sirius was escorted into her office.

â€žOf course." Said Black, he was tired by life in Azkaban. They gave him small flask and he quickly drank two necessary drops.

â€žFirst question. Are you a Death Eater?" asked Amelia

â€žI'm not and I never were."

â€žSecond. Were you Secret Keeper of Fidelius charm for Potters?"

â€žNo, I wasn't. It was Peter Pettigrew."

â€žThird. What did you do on night of 31st October 1980?"

â€žI went to check Potters in their hideout and saw that it was destroyed. I than checked Harry and gave him to Hagrid, after that I chased Pettigrew. Who casted curses at me and caused explosion, which he used to escape."

â€žThank you Sirius. You're cleared from all charges. If you would like, you can take guardianship of Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter." Said Amelia and gave him antidote to veritaserum.

â€žI would like to. But first can we discuss it a little? I would like to teach him skills that will help him survive, we all know that followers of Dark Lord are still free and they might attack Harry."

â€žDepends what."

â€žHow to use family magic, protective and offensive magic, apparition, animagus transformation, nonverbal and wandless spells. I will agree to have you or one of auror watching over it."

â€žNormally I wouldn't agree, but in this case I will agree with you. You're allowed, I would like to see couple of those lessons and what about Trace on his wand? We both know that offensive magic is sometimes considered borderline dark arts."

â€žCould you arrange removal of it? Claiming of Family Rings can be quite dangerous with Trace and he might need wand for doing it. Also it will be fighting protection placed on him by Lilly."

â€žDone" Said smiling Amelia, she was friend of Potter family and she wanted to do something for Harry.

â€žCan I take couple of Hit Wizards with me to reclaim Harry. People with whom he is living are quite stubborn and I'm not at hundred percent of my strength." Asked Sirius, who was pale and thin. â€žI will take him to Peverell manor in Yorkshire, where we will be able to rest and train. It's main manor of family and not many people know how to get there."

â€žI will go with you. You suspect that those Muggles would neglect Harry?" asked Amelia, with hint of anger in her voice.

â€žIt's more than sure. They despise magic and hated Lilly. I can't understand why Dumbledore gave Harry to them. In their will they were on last place from couple of choices, first I was as his godfather, second were Longbottom, third was my cousins Andromeda, fourth were you and last were those Muggles."

â€žI see." Quietly said Amelia and looked out of the window â€žRufus!"

â€žYou called?" asked Head Auror, once he entered the room.

â€žYes. We will need striking power to get hold on Harrius or as he is called Harry." Said Amelia and picked up wand from her desk. â€žI believe it's yours Sirius."

â€žYes, thank you" Said Sirius and picked up wand, which responded by sending shower of golden and red sparks. â€žI finally feel complete."

â€žLet's go. We need to use one of apparition centers. This area is heavily protected. Keep wands visible." Said Rufus, who preffered to be careful, than sorry. â€žWe need to apparate outside of place where Harry is now. It's heavily warded and we will need to break those wards to enter."

â€žAlbus and his overprotectiveness." Murmured Director Bones. When

they left her room, wands visible, people looked weirdly at them. Head Auror, Director of DMLE and Sirius Black, who until today was thought to be a murderer. And now three of them were walking side by side, black robes billowing behind them. They walked into one of apparition points set up for DMLE purpose and they landed outside of Private Drive 4.

â€žRufus, Sirius start dismantling wards. I will stand on guard." Said Amelia and both wizards nodded and started weaving spells to disarm those wards. Normally they would be impenetrable, but for aurors that took part in raids on family mansions they were quite easy. They could overpower them using sheer power, but that would be too flashy and dangerous. Also it would drain them of almost all their energy. And they would need it to get out of it.

â€žI never suspected that I will be breaking wards that can rival ones placed around Black or Peverell Manor." Said Sirius after a moment. â€žNormally I would use one of spells that are taught in my family, for such thing. But they're quite dark and exhausting."

â€žDark?" asked Amelia

â€žMinistry doesn't know and I'm not going to share that knowledge soon." Said Sirius with small wink, towards her and she nodded. All Houses had giant deal of private spells, only for their usage.

â€žI didn't hear that." She said â€žLet's go and find Harry. If my magic sense is good. He just accidentally used magic."

â€žI sensed it too." Added Sirius â€žI will talk with Harry, while you deal with those Muggles. Last time I almost wanted to raze their house. About Harry he just awoke his dormant power. You all remember Lord Charlus?"

â€žYes. He was natural animagus." Said Amelia and Sirius nodded.

â€žHarry is same one. He just transformed into Phoenix." Said chuckling Sirius â€žHe did that once, when he was three months old. He quite scared James, when he did that."

â€žI thought that you can't be natural animagus." Said Rufus

â€žIt's limited to Potter family. Same as metamorphomagus to my family." Explained Sirius and opened the doors, without knocking. And was rewarded with loud shriek, that came from living room.

â€žWhat was that?" asked amused Rufus

â€žPetunia Dursley, nÃ©e Evans." Said chuckling Sirius and looked towards living room where beautiful red and gold large bird with lightning shaped gold patch of feathers on his forehead, was flying under the ceiling and scaring Dursleys. Sirius extended his hand and bird happily landed there. Than he gently tapped it with his wand and it turned back into Harry.

â€žSirius Black! Get! Out! Of! My! House!" Screeched Petunia ,when she saw him and Sirius completely ignored her. He was used to such behavior from her so it only caused raised eyebrow from him, and

nothing more. Last time when he was delivering invitation to wedding of James and Lilly he was forced to hear her whole diatribe about freaks and wizards.

â€žAmelia she's all yours I will talk with Harry since he is my godson and you will deal with her. Rufus look around the house for you know what." Said Sirius and walked with Harry outside. While Amelia pointed Dursleys towards couch and she sat on one opposing them.

â€žI'm Amelia Bones, Director of Department of Magical Law Enforcement and I need to speak with you." She quietly said, wand in her hand â€žI'm rather disappointed in you. Harry Potter or as he should be properly called Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter Heir of the Most Ancient and Noble House Potter is neglected by you. He was given into your care after death of his parents in war and we hoped that he would have happy childhood. But I'm very disappointed in you, I already sent evidence to one of your courts through Ministry of Justice and you have two ways. You will give guardianship of him to Sirius Orion Regulus Arcturus Black willingly or we will have fight in court, which will be easily lost by you. Because Sirius was named as legal guardian of Harry, but due to certain misunderstanding he couldn't claim it until now. If you want evidence here is will of Lilly Evalyn Potter, nÃ©e Evans and her husband James Charlus Potter, previous Lord Potter." She moved her wand and on table between landed long piece of parchment.

Petunia carefully picked up piece of parchment and read it, and paled. â€žAll of that is his?" she weakly asked.

â€žYes. Potters are one of most influential families, or rather were." Said smiling Amelia, her own House was allied with House Potter. â€žBut only someone with magic in his veins and Potter Rings can claim those things. So you two can't take them." She added, noticing glint in Petunia eye.

â€žYou can have him. He was only hindrance for us." Said Vernon, for first time this evening.

â€žThank you" Replied Amelia and walked out of the room, but not out of house. She wanted to give Harry and Sirius some privacy. And allowed Rufus to quietly search whole house. For enough evidence to sent them to prison for abuse and mistreatment.

â€žHarry you may not remember me, but I'm your godfather." Quietly said Sirius, once they were outside.

â€žWhat happened to me before you entered?" asked Harry, more focused on what happened.

â€žYou accidentally used your magic. Some wizards can change their form into animal, while some have it from birth." Explained Sirius â€žI just canceled it, because you don't know how to do that on your own. I will show you it later. Now I want to talk with you. I was supposed to take care of you, after death of your parents when they were protecting you from assassination attempt, but there was slight misunderstanding and you landed here."

â€žWhat do you mean by death of my parents? Aunt Petunia told me that they died in car accident." Said Harry and Sirius almost lost control

of his magic.

â€žThat's giant piece of lies. They were killed in war with one madman. I will tell you whole story one day. But now I need to speak with you about something. Would you like to leave this house?" asked Sirius, slight anger visible in his voice and posture.

â€žYes. They hate me here." Said Harry and Sirius nodded.

â€žGood. I'm your godfather you will leave with me and I will show you wizarding world." Said Smiling Sirius, for first time he was quite happy. â€žAmelia, Rufus you can come" he said loudly and soon they were joined by both of them.

â€žAll sorted out." Both of them said

â€žThan let's go." Said Sirius and caught Harry hand and used second to apparate to Gringott Bank. They landed in grand room with marble floor, walls and roofs decorated with precious tapestries and golden columns and between them were large doors. â€žSorry for that, that's quickest way of transport. I will teach it to you in the future." He said once he noticed, uneasy look on Harry face.

â€žWhere are we?" asked Harry, looking around.

â€žGringott, Wizarding bank. We need to do few things here. Mainly you need to claim your family ring." Said Sirius, pushing doors open and walking through them with Harry slightly behind him. People looked at them, pointing at Sirius who was one of most powerful wizards of his generation and aurors in his old days. â€žWe are here to claim Potter family ring and Black family ring, along with vaults." He said to goblin behind counter, who snapped his fingers and another one appeared and guided them.

â€žThis way Lord Black and Lord Potter." He said, once they were outside if the doors leading to the large room.

â€žLord Potter?" asked Harry, shocked a little by respect visible in everybody posture and voice. He was previously treated like freak and piece of trash and now he was treated like someone important.

â€žYour official title." Explained Sirius â€žYour family was one of most powerful wizarding families. I will tell you more later, now we are here to claim rings that will give you access to all vaults, along with family estates."

â€žLord Black I see you brought young Lord Potter, so he can claim his ring." Asked goblin sitting behind desk, on his plate was visible name. There was Ragnok V written on the plate.

â€žI did. I claimed his guardianship today and before he lived with Muggles and isn't aware of our customs. So could you show him what words he will need to speak when claiming ring?" asked Sirius.

â€žOf course." Said goblin and took out small piece of parchment, along with ring from one of the drawers. â€žPut ring on middle finger of your right hand and say those words."

Harry took a long look at a ring, it was made out of gold with large

golden diamond in middle of it, with body of griffin around it. He took, a long calming breath and placed it on his finger.

â€žI Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter, claim by blood, by law and by magic the House of Potter. I swear to lead it justly and fairly, not to tarnish its honor and prestige. To protect and support those allied to House of Potter, by blood, by law and by magic, and to deliver justice to those who broke their oaths to House of Potter. So have I sworn. So mote be it. Familius Magicus." Harry carefully said, making sure to pronounce everything correctly. When he did this from ring shot out golden light and formed giant griffin in front of Harry and it bowed to him. He also felt powerful rush of power and from his body was pushed small black object, that screamed and was eaten by griffin.

â€žWhat was that?" asked Harry, once it was over.

â€žFamily magic. It protected you and destroyed splinter of someone soul, that found house in your body. Also there were restrains on your magic core that were torn by family magic." Explained Sirius â€žIt will unlock your true strength."

â€žTrue strength?" asked Harry.

â€žOn every wizarding child there are placed restrains to limit their power, until they claim their house ring or are of age. But in your case they were broken by claiming your ring. You power levels are around of typical adult wizard. I will help you harness and control that power, before you go to Hogwart. That's School of Witchcraft and Wizardy. But now we need keys." Said Sirius, who did same thing with his ring and looked at Ragnok â€žCan we get keys to Potter and Black family vaults? Also remove everything from Bellatrix LeStrange vault and move it main Black vault, but first check it for presence of Dark Arts and destroy everything with such presence."

â€žOf course." Replied Ragnok and took out set of keys from drawer â€žGriphook will take you there."

Sirius nodded and walked out of the room, with Harry behind. Outside they found Goblin named Griphook, who guided them towards carts used to get to the vaults.

â€žPotter and Black vaults are on the lowest level, they're one of the oldest ones. I didn't see full summary of what is in your family vault, but I vaguely remember that there's a lot of things. Generally family have couple of vaults. One general that's accessible only Head and his Heir and multiple smaller once, one for each family member. Also there might be additional vaults created to store artifacts." Explained Sirius

â€žSo we will see main vaults?" asked Harry

â€žYes and after that we need to do some shopping. Wands, books, clothes and couple of other things." Said Sirius and Naruto nodded. Sirius was quite shocked, Harry was taking it better than normal Muggleborn, but he expected that after Dursleys. He would leap towards any sort of warm and family.

â€žWands?" asked Harry â€žNot single?"

â€žGenerally it's better to have two. Also some are better at one discipline, while other at other. You will see when we will be buying them. Also some spells that I will show you are frowned upon in Hogwart and while Professors will understand why you know them. Other people may not approve if you're able to completely shield yourself. But that's matter for another day. Now we need to do shopping." Said Sirius and they walked out of cart and towards large doors with Griffin visible on them. â€žYour family vault, griffin is your coat of arms, whenever you call upon family magics it will always form it."

Sirius used key to open the doors and when they were gone Harry jaw dropped onto ground, in vault there were heaps of golden and silver coins, swords, books, jewels and other things.

â€žAll of this is mine?" asked Harry, once he overcame shock that he felt.

â€žYes. We will spend quite a lot doing shopping, some of those books are rather pricey and also good wands are rather pricey. And since you have animagus form it won't be a bad idea to use feathers from it as a core for wands." Said Sirius, while putting a lot of golden coins into leather bag that he brought with himself. â€žGolden ones are called galleons, silver are called sickles and bronze ones are called knuts. One galleon is worth seventeen sickles and one sickle is worth twenty three knuts."

â€žIt's weird." Said Harry and on Sirius face appeared thin smile.

â€žYour mother said exactly the same thing when she saw it for first time. You will get used to it, we don't use decimal system. There are also few other weird things, but I will tell you about it later." Sirius said and walked out of room, followed by Harry and they left the Gringott.

â€žFirst stop. Olivanders Wand Shop." Said Sirius and walked with Harry towards quite a big shop with few wands on display.

â€žWho I see. Sirius Black and Harrius Potter." Said Olivander, who was quite old wizard with long, gray beard.

â€žYes. We need wands for Harrius. But I will have a question for you first. He has powers of his grandfather and can transform into Phoenix, could you use feather from that Phoenix to do one wand? And second normal once." Said Sirius

â€žI could and it would bind wand to him and it would always be his. Only wand that has similar properties is Elder Wand in hands of descendants of Peverell family. You can't take it from them, unless they're willing to give it." Said Olivander and Sirius nodded and patted Harry with his wand. Which forced him to transform into Phoenix, Olivander removed one feather from its tail and Sirius changed back Harry into his normal form.

â€žYou need to teach me how I can do that on my own." Said Harry once he was back to normal.

â€žI will, actually that will be first thing that you will learn. You need to control it, I will tell you that transformation into Phoenix

will do great for you in Hogwart. Headmaster has his own Phoenix, so you will be quite safe when you turn into one. Nobody will suspect it was you." Said Sirius and watched Olivander, who was looking through pieces of wood.

â€žAny specific wood?" he asked

â€žMaybe holly?" asked Harry

â€žExcellent choice. Quite potent in protective charms and spells, powerful in Transfiguration. Excellent in casting powerful spells. Which hand has power?" asked Olivander, before noticed ring on right hand. â€žNevermind, right has."

â€žOf course. Ring recognize which hand has power. With ring you will have power of fully matured wizard and it will grow even more. So don't be shocked if during DADA in Hogwart you will easily disarm your sparring partner." Said Sirius and ruffled Harry hairs

â€žAny specific length?" asked Olivander and Harry looked at Sirius.

â€žYour choice, it doesn't really matter." Explained Sirius

â€žEleven inches." Suggested Harry and Olivander nodded. He started weaving complex net of spells around ingredients he placed on small table, with runes written around them. When he was done there was flash of light and ingredients disappeared, same as runes. In place of them was wand. Handle of it looked like root and it was white, with few streaks of red and gold. Two red and gold threads were visible through the entire length of the wand which was brown.

â€žVery interesting. Core manifested in very interesting way, but also reflects you Harrius. Gold and Red are symbols of Griffindor, but they have more important meaning. Gold means glory, praise and success, while Red can mean blood and suffering, it can also mean power and loyalty." Said Olivander and gave wand to Harry, handle first. â€žDo some moves with it."

Harry nodded and swiped it, from end of it shot out multiple red and gold sparks, and Griffin. Which caused raised eyebrows from Sirius and Olivander.

â€žLooks like it allied itself with House of Potter. I'm pretty sure, that everybody excluding you and your godfather will suffer pain similar to Cruciatus curse, when he touch it. Such wands rarely happen. I know only about I believe three such wands and two of them are in Black vault, while third one is in possession of Albus Dumbledore." Said Olivander and Sirius scratched his chin.

â€žThere was fourth one. It was destroyed during battle between Death Eaters and Lord Charlus Potter, he called forth whole mighty of family magic and on his own kept at bay twenty Death Eaters. Ten of which ended with permanent injuries. Along with my grandfather they walked through Malfoy Manor defence like they were nothing. After it main hall of it looked like hell and when aurors came to clean it, they saw bodies everywhere." Said Sirius and Olivander nodded.

â€žYes. Same combination as Harrius wand and feather was from animagus form of Lord Charlus." Said Olivander â€žBut now second wand. I belive same combination will work the best." He handed Harry similar wand, but it was completely smooth and without any marks. Harry swiped it and from it end shot out red and gold sparks

â€žGood. How much it will be?" asked Sirius

â€žFor custom made one. It will be fifteen hundred galleons. For normal another hundred. So overall sixteen hundred." Said Olivander and counted gold given to him by Sirius. They left the shop and next on list of things were robes and normal clothes.

â€žSince school will start in two years, we won't buy them yet. Only formal one and dueling ones. I won't require you to wear them, when not dueling or during formal meetings. Later it will be required, but you will get used to it." Said Sirius and Harry nodded.

â€žBut why dueling robes?" asked Harry.

â€žBecause I will be teaching you defensive and offensive magic, Death Eaters are still around and they might try to kill you. So I will teach you battle magic to level sufficient to disarm average wizard. I will also teach you how to apparate and things that every wizard child learns before he or she enters Hogwart. Also last thing and most important, your wands don't have Trace on them. It's sensor that alarms ministry when underage wizard casts spell. I convinced them to remove it from you, because some of those spells can be considered borderline dark." Said Sirius and Harry nodded, they spent rest of the day in Diagon Alley shopping and getting to know themselves.

â€žI think it's time that we go home. Peverell mansion was house of Potters and I know where it is. So I will get us there." Said Sirius and Harry nodded. He felt familiar tug and they were gone, and moments later appeared in large hall. It was expensively looking hall with Inkal of house emblazoned in the floor of it, floor was made out of golden marble and Inkal that was standing upright Griffin was surrounded by thin circle of red. Griffin itself was golden with white head and open beak. Under it was Family Motto â€“ Semper Fidelis. Harry eyes immediately landed on it.

â€žWhat's that?" he asked pointing towards mentioned words.

â€žYour Family Motto, Semper Fidelis which means Always Loyal." Said Sirius and walked with Harry further into mansion. â€žIt needs to be cleaned, but since you're Lord Potter house elves awoke from their slumber and should start cleaning this house once again. They're connected to family magic and when it's weak they go into sleep." Everywhere was visible gold and scarlet, but they were usually toned version of those colors. Not bright and flashy one.

â€žIt's beautiful, I feel good here. Like it should be my home, not one with Dursleys." Said Harry, feeling energy entering his body.

â€žBecause it should be your home. It's proper wizard dwelling. I will teach you our culture and etiquette, but we have time for that.

Now you need rest, for this week and few more I will let you get used to living with me. Also I will tell you stories about myself and your parents from our school years. After that we will work on your knowledge of wizarding culture and customs. After that we will work on your animagus transformation and apparition." Said Sirius

â€žWhy those two first?" asked Harry

â€žBecause Phoenix can apparate without any issue and, if you master all powers of your animal form you will be able to apparate without problems. And normal restrictions placed on apparition, aren't placed on Phoenix." Explained Sirius â€žBut now you need, night full of good sleep. I think that bedroom used by your father will be most fitting for your tastes."

â€žYeah" Agreed Harry and allowed Sirius to guide him into his father bedroom. Which was quite spacious room, but rather simple. There were no sign of extreme wealthy and it was obvious that furniture was expensive, but foremost it was practical. Bed was quite big and was standing in the corner of the room, covers were red with gold accents and big golden lion in middle of them. On the wall directly in front of the bed hung large red banner with golden lion and capital G in middle of it and a lot of photos, on which people were moving. Harry get used to wonders of magic, so he didn't freaked out when he saw them. There was large wardrobe and couple of drawers in various place, around the room. There were also quite a few big windows around it and desk, under one of them. But thing that most surprised Harry was that there was large trunk between legs of his bed. Which was covered in strange leather and that everything was clean and fresh here.

â€žI thought it was abandoned?" said Harry, when he saw it. He also saw that Sirius placed his belongings on the table, that was standing in one of the corners.

â€žHouse elves magic. They felt your magic awoke in the morning and they started preparing house for return of new Lord. So everything will be clean and fresh. I will answer all your questions once you are awake. Now you need to sleep, keep your ring on your hand at all times. It will help your magic grow and stabilize." Said Sirius and quietly left the room. Harry looked through drawers and wardrobes and found them empty. He didn't bother with putting clothes into them yet. He changed clothes into pajama, placed his wands on nightstand and went to sleep. Finally he felt safe and basically good, he felt that he had something similar with Sirius, but he didn't know what yet.

When Harry went to sleep Sirius found himself some quils and parchment and started writing letters. He needed to sort out multiple things. Good thing was that when they were shopping they bought few owls for delivering letters. Harry bought beautiful white owl for himself and for official messages, and when he needed more that one letter delivered quickly he bought brown one. Their names were Hedwig and Orion. Sirius bought himself two, black one for official messages and brown one for times when he needed multiple letters quickly delivered. He called them Regulus and Arcturus, both in memory of his ancestors and brother, but also he followed Harry pattern. But today all of them would be working, delivering letters to old friends and family members. Better description would be liked part of family. LeStrange and Malfoy would receive official letters from Gringott and

Ministry of Magic that marriage contracts are void and they need to return whole dowry.

First on Sirius list was propably most important one as well. Remus Lupin, one of his and James closest friends and one of their old school group called Marauders.

Dear Moony,

I'm cleared from all charges and released from Azkaban. I claimed guardianship of son of Prongs and we are currently in old Prongs Manor. Wards are on, but you can safely apportate inside, I modified them. I won't give you details, because I worry for safety of this letter. Once you receive it apportate into lobby of Mansion.

P. S. It will be delivered by Prongs owl, I need to write a lot of letters today and I want delivered them as fast as possible.

Your Padfoot

Sirius sealed the letter and sent Hedwig on her way with it, she didn't sound to happy, but she took off and fly with it. Second would be to Minerva McGonagall, who was sort of aunt for him and since it was holidays time, she wouldn't have problems with visiting and she would help Harry with control of his animagus power. During last war she learned code used by Marauders, so she would decipher who was writing and why.

Dear Aunt Minnie

I'm cleared from all charges and free. I claimed guardianship of You-Know-Who and he has his grandfather power. Can you come in next couple of weeks to help him with it? So that he can control it. If you can pay a visit sooner, you're free to visit. We are in the old mansion of Prongs, Wards are on, but you have password to apportate inside. Don't tell Albus about this letter, he will learn in proper time. Now I want to spend time with You-Know-Who and teach him about our world and start teaching him how to control his power. He has same form as bird of Albus.

Padfoot

He sealed it and sent another owl with it. He needed to write two more, one to his cousin Andromeda and second to let know Amelia that he is safe and hidden. But also so he could arrange with her some of those lessons and so that she could see Harry w and.

Dear cousin Dromeda

I'm cleared from all charges and released. I claimed guardianship of my godson and we are in his family mansion. I will be taking care of our house matters in couple of weeks, but I can assure you that you're welcomed back. Can you come and pay as a visit in couple of weeks? You-Know-Who would enjoy Nyphadora company and you can tell him something about our society. He lived with Muggles that don't believe in magic, so he knows nothing about our customs.

Your favorite cousin

He sealed letter and sent it with another owl, he wanted to warn them

before Ministry would launch all-out press campaign. It would be loud when they do that, so he wanted to give them warning. Last was letter to Amelia, who was one of his friends from Hogwart.

Dear Amelia

We are safely hidden in old Peverell Mansion. I will start slowly teaching him how to control his magic in next few weeks. During claiming all restrictions placed on his core were torn and now he has power similar to average wizard or witch. Can you drop by in next couple of weeks, propably around beginning of September?

His wand is special, but that's topic for talk when you will be here. Also can you check DOM for any data on horcruxes. And bring me book about them, I want to confirm something. I think we might destroy one, when we claimed ring. But that's topic for talk when you will be here.

Your Padfoot

That was end of the day for Sirius, he sent letters out and went to sleep. He used his old bedroom in the house. It looked almost the same as Harry, but there was also crest of House of Block. Which was Eagle. He immediately went to sleep, he was tired and wanted long and peaceful sleep.

2. Chapter 2

When Harry woke up he didn't belive that things which happened yesterday were true, but once he saw giant golden lion on opposite wall he realized they were true. He dressed into new clothes they bought yesterday, they were Muggle clothes, but they were his size and looked and felt good. They were simple jeans, dark red t-shirt and gray jumper. Sirius also bought him something called wand holster, it was attached to trousers and allowed person to have wands in hand reach, he placed there both of his wands and walked out of the roof. Which he now recognized was on first floor and from it was beautiful views on living room that was below it. He now realized how beautiful this house was, he also spotted Sirius sitting on one couch talking with man that sat besides him. He had mane of gray hairs and worn out robes, but excluding that he looked healthy. Harry walked down the stairs and than adults noticed him, he sent questioning look at Sirius who nodded.

â€žI saw him on photos in my room. He was standing between you and my father." He said pointing at stranger.

â€žYou're right Harrius. This is Remus Lupin, one of best friends of me and your father. In Hogwart we formed group called Marauders. There were four of us your father, called by us Prongs, I, called Padfoot, Lupin called Moony and Peter Pettigrew, called Wormtail, which was responsible for death of your parents." Explained Sirius and Harry nodded.

â€žBut why Prongs? Family animal is griffin." Asked Harry

â€žAnimagus form. Why you're is Phoenix, his was Stag and I belive that with training you should be able to also change into it."

Explained Sirius

â€žHe is animagus?" asked shocked Lupin

â€žYou forgot that incident when Harrius had three months? When he changed himself into Phoenix?" asked chuckling Sirius.

â€žMy bad. Prongs expression was priceless." Said Lupin and took a long and careful look of Harry. â€žYou look a lot of like your father, but you have your mother eyes." He that noticed wands â€žMay I see them" he asked pointing in direction of them.

â€žSure Mr Lupin" Said carefully Harry

â€žDon't call me Mr. Use Remus or Loony" Said Lupin and Harry nodded. He took out both wands and placed them on table between them and sat in one of comfortable armchairs that were around.

â€žDon't touch one with weird pattern of gold and red threads. It will burn you, it has connection with Harrius. Core is from his animagus form and Olivander believes that only Harrius and I can safely touch it. You remember my grandfather wand?" he asked, looking at Remus.

â€žYes. He used feather from his natural." Said Remus and picked up second wand. â€žNo wonders you want him to have two wands. I wouldn't be surprised if one of Professors in Hogwart would have huge troubles in duel with Harry when he would be using his first wand. You remember what Charlus and Arcturus did together when they combined their power and together were fighting and using family magic. Killing Curses were deflected at casters and even simple shield was able to stop almost anything."

â€žNatural?" asked Harry

â€žSorry, we forgot about you. Natural is animal that formed bond with person. Such example could be Albus Dumbledore and his Phoenix Fawkes. He is Headmaster at Hogwart." Explained Remus

â€žActually you brought up good point Remus. I want to give Harrius in next two years complete training in offensive and defensive magic, so he can be somewhat safe. You know Slytherin don't like Potter family and they might try things." Said Sirius and Remus face appeared worry.

â€žIt's quite a good idea. I will help you as much as I can. But first he and you need to get your bodies into proper shape. But also Harry needs to learn basics of magic. And learn about our society and customs." Said Lupin and in Harry eyes appeared flicker of flame. â€žYou propably wonder why in your room there are so many lions, not griffins?"

â€žYeah." Nodded Harry

â€žSign of one of four houses of Hogwart, one into which your father belonged. Gryffindor when you will join Hogwart, you will propably too land there. Family tradition of sorts." Explained Remus â€žOnly Padfoot broke tradition of his family and landed in Gryffindor, not in Slytherin."

â€žYes." Admitted Sirius â€žI didn't like Slytherin altitude, but if needed I can behave like proper Snake should. Remus you were better at explaining, so maybe you should tell Harry, about Hogwart and Houses there." Nudged him Sirius and Lupin nodded.

â€žThere are four houses. Gryffindor, people from which are called Lions, red and gold are colors of it. Next is Ravenclaw, people from which are called Ravens, their colors are blue and brown. Hufflepuff is third, people from it are called Badgers and they're colors are yellow and black. Last, but not least. But least liked by me is Slytherin, people from it are called Snakes and they're colors are silver and green. There is usually rivalry between houses, most heated is between Lions and Snakes. In our times there were regular duels on corridors and brawls. But it's usually way calmer." Said Remus and Harry nodded.

Next two years passed in blink of eye. Harry was learning everything he should learn, if his parents lived. That's customs of wizarding society, riding on Griffins and horses. Although on Griffins you actually flew, not rode. He learned about his heritage and family history. He also learned battle magic from Sirius, not only how to fight with one, but with multiple enemies at the same time. How to cast spells without wand or without saying incantations. He also finally learned two things he wanted most, apparition and animagus transformation. Now he could change at will from human to Phoenix and into pitch black tiger with lightning shaped patch of fur on his forehead. But that was a secret and not many people knew about it. He also met Sirius family and one of his cousins, would be in her sixth year when he would be in his first. So he learned quite a bit about Hogwart from her and how not to ruffle feathers of people.

But finally it was time for his and Nyphadora previously Tonks, now Black to go to Hogwart. She changed her surname, when she was returned to House of Black, mainly so she could access family magic to some extent. She was from Gryffindor, which meant she would be in same house and could help him with homeworks or Potions that were always impossible to understand, because of teacher. Severus Snape. Everybody agreed that he was great Potion Maker, but not teacher and was biased. Which hopefully should change soon, he forgot what could happen when insulting Black or Potter and now it would hit him like train. Rule in school was that any student could challenge Professor, if he or she felt that he or she was graded not justly or teacher was biased.

Day before 1st September 1990 in Peverell Manor or as Harry liked to call it Griffin House was hectic, everybody was running with their trunks and wands trying to sort things out and put them in order. Tonks moved there when Sirius suggested it, most of it was unused and their house was a ruin. While Manor was actual opposite of it and they loved it. Couple more owls were added to owlery, considering that two would be taken to Hogwart by Harry and Nyphadora. Who still blasted with curses anybody who used her full name, same as Harry when someone used Harrius. Only ones that could do that was Sirius, Andromeda and Nyphadora.

Finally around midnight everything settled into some resemblance of order and they decided that they would use trunks covered in Hungarian Horntail dragon hide and enchanted to be expandable on the inside. They were one of many Potter family heirlooms and Tonks needed to change Incal for Eagle of Black. Actually they were able to

stuff in a lot of things, school books, clothes, ingredients for potions, telescopes, weights and multiple other thing. But Harry also put in books on animagus transformation, Dark Arts and Blood Magic from Potter Library, Family Magic and Battle Magic. Along with couple of books about his family history. Most of them were kind of illegal, but Lord had immunity to being prosecuted for possession of them and if they would try to confiscate any of them. Pour soul that would do that would have a meeting with full Wizengamot, which could shatter her reputation. And since DMLE was aware that Potter had them and was training in battle magic, they would tell that poor soul to stop looking for troubles. He also did something to usual crow nest of his hairs, he used some of his abilities to change shape of body and lengthened them and tied them into ponytail with simple strip of leather. During official meetings it would be something more extravagant than piece of leather, but not for normal days.

On next day they walked out of mansion, onto grounds in front of them to use apportation to get to King's Cross 9Â¾, from where would leave train to Hogwart. When they landed they caused quite a ruckus, after all everybody recognized Incals of Potter and Black. But they were more shocked when everybody apparated on his own, not using side-along apportation. Which meant those were powerful wizards or in Tonks case witches. Only person with potent magic and focused mind could successfully apparate over such distances and even harder if it was into unknown region. Not to mention that it was kind of illegal, unless DMLE was aware of such things.

â€žLooks like we got all attention we could." Said Nyphadora, when she noticed that everybody was looking at them. Or more exactly at the scar visible on Harry forehead. It was one of most recognized scars in whole wizarding world.

â€žTonks you know that I'm attention magnes, wherever I go. So stop bothering about it, or I will start calling you Nyphadora." Said Harry, with small grin and Tonks hairs turned dark red. â€žNever mind, I never said anything about your name" he quickly added, trying to defuse situation.

â€žAs I thought. Let's go and find some compartment free of Snakes or Badgers. Ravens are good, but I would prefer Lions." Said Tonks and they levitated their trunks and walked towards one of cars and quickly located one of free compartment.

â€žHave fun in Hogwart and try not to blow it up." Said Sirius to them, knowing well they were rather accomplished pranksters. And said his good byes.

â€žI hope we won't ran into Ferret. They're still sore about what Sirius did to them and since I'm officially named Heir of House Black. They might try things." Said Harry and took out book from his trunk about Phoenixes and animagus transformation.

â€žLooks like blood traitor and Boy-Who-Lived are together." Sneered someone from entrance.

â€žTonks would you mind getting rid of them? I'm too tired to take out my wand." Said Harry, when he noticed Malfoy junior, with Crabble junior and Goyle junior.

â€žWith pleasure." Said Tonks and took out her wand from her holster

and Draco Malfoy was paler than usual, even before she did any movement with it. There were three blasts or light and they looked more properly, like three giant slugs.

â€žLooks like someone loves pranks too" Said three redheads that entered the compartment.

â€žWesleys?" asked Harry, when he noticed fiery red hairs

â€žYes. Fred and Gorge and our younger brother Ron." Said twins and the same time â€žAnd you are who?"

â€žNyphadora Black and this is Harrius Potter. One hint for you. Fred and Gorge you know that you should never, ever use my full name. Same with him. Last person that did this ended in shape worse than those three Snakes." Said Tonks and Wesleys eyes widened. She changed during the summer. But Harrius was also Boy-Who-Lived.

â€žWhat happened to you? You weren't so confident during last year." Asked Fred

â€žConstant duels with Harry, Sirius and McGonagall. And nice long holidays in our Lodge in Romania and flying on Griffins." said Tonks and helped Wesleys with putting their trunks in their proper places.

â€žGriffins?" asked Ron, eyes full of awe.

â€žYes, we have small herd of them." Said Tonks and looked at Harry, who was reading book with incal of House Black â€žSeriously, you don't have anything better to do that read books about family magic?"

â€žWhat I can say, you stole it for whole summer?" Replied Harry and Tonks nodded

â€žPoint for you. But it's not my problem that Quirrel decided to give us five rolls of parchment about blood magic and its connection with family magic as homework. Not to mention that most of it was in Dark Arts section of our library. Parts of which are so dark, that's impossible to belief." She protested and Harry nodded and looked at rest of compartment. Those three will be hard to recognize, they were almost the same. Only youngest was a little shorter than rest of them.

â€žIs there any way to recognize who is who?" asked Harry, after he looked at twins.

â€žNope" Started George â€žWe're twins and impossible to recognize." Finished Fred

â€žThey're pranksters, but worse that Prongs, Moony or Padfoot." Said Tonks â€žThey had at least some sort of honor and rarely touched other Lions."

â€žDid you say Prongs? Moony? Padfoot? How do you know those names?" asked George, glancing at Fred who looked at Harry, who was playing with weird wand.

â€žSeriously you don't know people behind those nicknames? Prongs was

James Charlus Potter and currently it's Harry nickname, Padfoot is Sirius Orion Regulus Arcturus Black, Lord Black and Lord Regent Potter and Peverell and Moony is Remus Lupin. Nicknames are based on animagus form, excluding Moony. But that's not my secret to tell. And Wormtail we know who he is, but I won't tell you about him. Let's say that he has kill on sight order." Said Tonks and Twins gulped and looked at Harry.

â€žThan I think we have something for Harry." Said Fred and took out piece of parchment and gave it to Harry. â€žMarauders Map"

Harry nodded, opened it and tapped it with his wand, and muttered â€žAnother Prongs found this map. Change Wormtail for Phoenix." When he did that map responded to it and changed, it recognized Harry magic and Wormtail name was burned and Phoenix appeared over it.

â€žWhy did you do that?" asked Fred

â€žBecause Wormtail was traitor in that group and I need to do some things to it. Mainly update few places." Explained Harry â€žBut also Phoenix is my second nickname."

â€žYou're animagus?" asked George

â€žYes, I'm." Said Harry and focused on himself for a moment and changed into majestic red and gold bird, with beautiful plumage. After that he changed back into his normal form.

â€žWow. Phoenix and animagus." Said full of awe Ron

â€žYep. I have core in my wand from feathers from my Phoenix form. But now I think it's time to change into school robes." Said Harry, when he noticed where they were. He quickly put on Hogwart robes and on his arm, double wand holster with notice-me-not charm, which made spotting it almost impossible.

â€žWand holster?" asked George, when he noticed what Harry attached to his forearm.

â€žYes. I wouldn't like to lose a wand that costed fifteen hundred galleons." Said Harry and put both wands in.

â€žWhat type of wand?"

â€žFirst is eleven inches holly and Phoenix feather from my animagus form, custom made with runes strengthening it and reinforcing it. Second is same, but feather from normal Phoenix." Explained Harry and looked at twins. â€žYours?"

â€žFifteen inches oak and string from dragon heart." Said Fred

â€žThirteen inches holly and unicorn hair." Said George

â€žTwelve inches oak and dragon heart. Old Charlie wand." Said youngest, Ron.

â€žYou will have fun with casting. Wand will be fighting you." Said Tonks â€žThere's a reason why wandmaker will tell you that wand

choose wizard, not other way around."

â€žYeah, but we couldn't buy one for me." Said Ron

â€žWe're almost at Hogwart. We just passed outer wards." Suddenly said Harry

â€žHow do you know that? They're almost impossible to detect." Asked Fred

â€žGodric Gryffindor was my ancestor on my mother side, so it propably recognized me as his heir. And greeted, also Head rings easily recognize wards." Said Harry and showed his fingers with rings with Thestral of Peverell, Eagle of Black and Griffin of Potter. Ring with Eagle didn't have gem in middle of it, which suggested that it was only heir ring. â€žDo not touch them under any circumstances, they're cursed in such way that only person who is wearing them or their relatives can wear them. Tonks can because we're cousins once or twice removed."

â€žWe will meet on feast. First year students have different entrance." Said twins and dragged their trunks with them and were followed by Tonks. Harry and Ron walked out moments of later and followed them out of train.

â€žIt looks beautiful." Whispered Ron, when he saw castle in front of them.

â€žYes. Although too grand for my taste, I prefer our Lodge in Romania, it's less extravagant." Said Harry, when he saw Hogwart for first time. It was a giant castle with multiple towers, buildings and passages between them, surrounded both by impressive magical and physical defenses. â€žAt least I will have fun finding ways to brute force break wards surrounding it. Even Peverell Manor has wards which looks like fence, compared to those."

â€žTwins told me, there are multiple hidden passages and trapped ones." Said Ron

â€žYes, Sirius told me about at least twenty of such things." Said Harry and started pushing his way through crowd towards boats waiting for them at the edge of giant lake.

â€žFirst year here!" shouted someone who looked like half-giant. He quickly gathered first year around him and they boarded their boats. Which were moved by magic, because there were no visible propellers, at the front of each was smokeless lantern that lit it and area around the boat. They passed under stone arch and entered walls of Hogwart. And saw Great Hall emerging from darkness, it was lit by countless lights. Both magical and normal, it looked truly beautifully and magical. Boats stopped on their own in front of steps that emerged from water. They walked out of boats and over the steps into Great Hall, but to side room, not main one. There was waiting for them woman with pointy hat and in old fashioned dress and looked quite old. But that was misleading in wizard world and some people looked like twenty years old, when they were forty and some looked like eighty when they were forty.

â€žProfessor McGonagall I brought first year!" said half-giant that brought them here. Harry immediately recognized her, she stopped in

Griffin house quite a few times during last few months.

â€žThank you Hagrid. I will take it from here." She said and giant nodded. â€žI'm Minerva McGonagall and I'm Deputy Headmistress and Head of Gryffindor. Welcome to Hogwart, you have ten minutes to clean yourself before you enter the Hall for Sorting Ceremony." Harry nodded and without thinking moved his wand over his clothes and cleaned them from dirt and other things. After ten minutes large double doors leading into Great Hall were opened and they entered through them. In row behind Professor McGonagall. When they did that eyes of every living and dead being focused on Harry. Ghost slightly bowed, they easily spotted ring with Thestral and didn't want to see what wielder of it could do.

â€žNick why do you bow to him?" asked one of Lions, that were sitting near spot where ghost resident of their tower was.

â€žLee do you know all twenty four Most Ancient and Noble Houses?" asked him ghost.

â€žYes" Replied blonde boy.

â€žHe is Lord Potter and Peverell, and Peverell had some control over ghost. Same thing happened when Charlus Potter visited Hogwart. We showed him respect and by looks of it, this one is even more powerful. Propably trained battle mage or at least trained in usage of family magic." Explained Nick

When first year students marched to the middle of room, there was brought stool with old and tattered hat. Which started singing and in her song were explained qualities of each house. Things praised by them and ones that weren't liked, along with brief history of Hogwart and warning to stay together and be friendly to each other. People were sorted, some went to Lions, some to Ravens and most to Badgers, while least to Snakes. Soon it was Harry's time.

â€žHarrius James Arcturus Orion Potter Lord Potter and Peverell, Heir of the Most Ancient and Noble House of Black." Announced Minerva McGonagall, not sure if things she was reading were true. Normally titles weren't announced, unless person was lord or lady of some house, than they were announced. When she did that everybody stopped talking and was focused on Harry. Outside of Black family and Gringott nobody knew that he was heir of Black, so how it managed to land on this scroll was question that was in Harry head.

â€žLord Potter and Peverell? Heir of House Black?" whispered many people, not sure if they heard correctly. If they heard correctly, duels with him would be risky. Heads of houses had full mighty of their family magic at their disposal and let's say that they were allowed to use Dark Arts in fight.

â€žMalfoy won't like it, if he will be in our house" Said Fred

â€žEven he needs to bow before Lord Potter on formal occasions. Chance that he will go to anywhere else than lions is equal zero." Said Neville â€žHis whole family went to Lions."

â€žGRYFFINDOR!" yelled hat, after few moments of thought. Everybody at Lions table cheered, while other tables wailed because they lost

propably the best student of the year. After that announcement ceremony continued until everybody was sorted.

â€žAs usual I have few announcements. First of all Forbidden Forest is still forbidden. Left corridor on third level is closed until further notice. On doors to Mr Fitch office is list of banned objects. Magic on corridors is banned. That's all for today. Tuck in." Said Dumbledore and on tables appeared all kinds of food. From almost every cuisine and almost every type of drink, but most dominant was pumpkin juice. Once they ate first dish on everything magically cleaned and was replaced by heaps of cakes, ice creams and every other imaginable dessert. Once it was over, students started moving out of the room. Prefects quickly intercepted groups of first year students and guided them to areas occupied by their houses. Gryffindor had rooms in one of biggest towers of castle, unofficially called Lion's Tower.

They walked through moving stairs, closing and opening corridors and through maze of passageways. Harry tried to keep track of where they were going, but for tomorrow he would need Marauders
Map.

â€žPassword?" asked portrait that was guardian of entrance to Lion's Tower. It only allowed to pass person that knew password, in other cases it wouldn't allow passage.

â€žSemper Fidelis â€“ Always Faithful." Said Percy and doors opened and let them pass inside. They walked into large circular room with doors to the right and left and large fireplace in one side of it. It was furnished with comfortable looking armchairs, sofas and tables. Everything was in red and gold of lions.

â€žBoys to the right. Girls to the left." Said Percy and showed them their dormitories. When they entered they saw couple of four poster beds with red curtains and their trunks standing between legs of bed. They had nightstands and jugs of water there, along with beautiful view of surrounding lands.

â€žI almost feel like at home." Said Harry â€žRed and gold everywhere. Only they could have Griffin stables."

â€žGriffin stables?" asked Dean Thomas, who was half-blood.

â€žYes. Kind of family tradition that everybody knows how to ride on them. After all its in our coat of arms." Said Harry and opened his trunk. â€žLet's see. Dark Arts, not today, Blood Magic, not today, Family Magic, not today, War magic, not today. Here it is." Muttered Harry, while digging through his trunk to find his clothes.

â€žIs that dragon hide?" asked Neville, when he noticed leather on Harry trunk. It was somewhat scaly and dark red. Only dragon hide could look like this.

â€žYes. Two hundred years old Hungarian Horntail, one of family heirlooms." Said Harry and looked at other people in the room. â€žNever ever touch my rings, trunk or wands. They're protected with curses, old and nasty ones. Family and blood magic."

â€žBlood magic? I heard from my brother who is curse breaker that's considered dark art." Said Ron

â€žIt's borderline dark art. Houses use it on their rings and wards. For example I needed to mark master ward stone with blood, so they would obey me. Also if core of wand is bound to user in some way, wand is protected. For example I could activated siege wards in all of Potter family estates and nobody could break them. But for today I don't have energy to talk." Said Harry, changed into his pajama and jumped into his bed and closed off all curtains. He didn't need much sleep, only around six hours, but still he needed it. Occlumency helped with it, this branch of magic allowed body to sleep less and less, because it better utilized time of sleep, but also his humongous power caused that body had more energy. Thus making it require less and less sleep.

â€žHey Neville were you taught Occlumency?" he asked, once they were awake.

â€žBasics of it. How to sort your memories and how to create simple shields." Said the boy and Harry snorted in amusement.

â€žSorry for that. But first thing that Sirius taught me was how to protect my mind, so that I can safeky hid memories and other things. If you want I can help you with it on weekends. I know how to attack minds, because during fights its useful and due to certain guest in my body I was forced to have crash course in it." Said Harry and Neville nodded.

â€žGuest in your body?" asked Ron

â€žWhat do you know about 31st October 1980 and that thing that happened in Godric Hollow?" asked Harry, his cheerful expression dropped.

â€žYou-Know-Who was killed when he was struck by his own spell." Said Ron

â€žCorrect in the most part. His soul was shattered and it tried to latch onto anything living and splinter of it latched onto me. During inheritance ritual I was fighting it for control over my body." Said Harry â€žBut enough of bad news, let's go for breakfast." He added in more cheerful voice and finished dressing up and put his wand in holster. He sent during night message to Sirius about Draco and he expected howler for Draco, because of Black primacy over Malfoy. When they entered the Hall and took seats and before dishes appeared on the tables owls flew in, two giant majestic owls carrying red letters flew over Draco and dropped them onto his lap.

â€žFirst day and two howlers?" asked Neville, a little surprised by such reaction.

â€žHe stepped over few lines. His mother is one of more decent aunts and when she heard from Sirius what happened she should be furious. Sirius sent another as Black have primacy over Malfoy and Blacks have short temper." Explained Harry and saw when pale Draco ran from Great Hall with burning letters in hands. â€žHere it comes." He added cheerfully, when he saw they were almost ready to blow up.

â€žDRACONIS LUCIUS MALFOY WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT CALLING MEMBERS OF FAMILY BLOOD TRAITORS? YOU WILL NEVER CALL IN SUCH WAY ANY MEMBERS

OF BLACK FAMILY! BE HAPPY THAT I DIDN'T TOOK CONTROL OF YOUR TRUST VAULT!" yelled male voice at Draco and it bellowed through entire Great Hall and everybody winced.

â€žHe was furious." Said Harry, once it was over.

â€žAlso Slytherin is losing fifty points for your behavior." Added McGonagall and cheerfully vanished fifty gems from Slytherin amount. After that she walked to their table and gave them their timetables.

â€žNot bad. Two hours of DADA with Quirell in the morning and than Charms with Flitwick and after lunch Transfiguration with McGonagall two hours." Said Harry, once she saw timetable. He learned hard way that McGonagall was demanding, but also quite helpful when someone had problem with doing his work. â€žMaybe I will be able to ask her for some help with my animagus transformation."

â€žYou know how hard it is to have only one?" asked him Hermione

â€žPotter family had bigger or lesser degree of inherited ability to change into animal. I inherited my grandfather ability to change into Phoenix and I would like to try learning my father one. One that made him famous in Hogwart, Prongs. That is Stag." Explained Harry â€žMcGonagall has cat and I believe raven or eagle transformation."

â€žActually it's a hawk. Meet me in transfiguration classroom after dinner. We will work on it, try not to be followed." Said Minerva, once he appeared behind him.

â€žI will need to check if wards works against Phoenix travel." Said Harry and McGonagall nodded, that was one of more safer and exotic ways of travel.

â€žThey shouldn't." She said and Harry nodded in thanks.

â€žPhoenix travel?" asked Ron

â€žOne of my emergency ways of getting somewhere where I can't apparate or use portkey. Impossible to track. Instantaneous and quite flashy." Explained Harry and kept walking to their dorm to get some book to read during nap called DADA. He had more knowledge than average seven year student had, there were advantages of having aurors stopping by to talk and accidentally show something. Also McGonagall and Sirius were happy to duel with Harry, after all duels were one of ways to learn how to fight and cast spells. Also it was great physical exercise to work on agility and flexibility of body. He decided to take something related to DADA, book about war magic and how to combine spells and charms into chains. It was one of books that was on most wanted list of most libraries and he could propably convince librarian here to allow him to take a peak at Dark Arts part of library. If librarian was allowed to take a look at that book.

They entered the classroom and Harry took place in the back of class took out his book and charmed it to look like textbook, they were supposed to read. He knew basics of things that were in the book, but he needed to put pieces in proper place. And to learn how to use them

in combat at moment notice.

â€žThat was a very good read." He happily said, once they left two hour long nap in classroom stinking with garlick.

â€žI took nap five minutes after opening textbook." Said Ron â€žI don't know how you can read this crap."

â€žI wasn't reading it. I was reading something way more useful from family library. Something that's normally covered for NEWT and during auror training. Chain spells." Explained Harry and took out small black book with Potter crest on cover of it, along with crossed staffs behind that crest.

â€žHow can you understand language in which it's written. It looks like Latin." Said Hermione, when she took it from Harry and read.

â€žI know English and Latin and I know Old Norse, Ancient Egyptian and Celtic for runes. I also have one of abilities of Salazar Slytherin parseltongue." Quietly said Harry, so only Hermione could hear him. â€žI can teach you some Latin, it's really useful when digging through old books. Especially when cross-referencing data about dark arts or more advanced charms. Now go to Flitwick, he will be quite enjoyable." Said Harry and nudged Hermione to follow him through the maze of corridors.

And Harry was right about Flitwick. He was a dwarf, but he was also a Professor that didn't hold any grudges and praised good work.

â€žDuring my classes we will work on charms and spells. We will be venturing into areas covered in other fields as well, as charms are useful everywhere. For today your task is to make this feather levitate. First to do will get ten points." Said Flitwick and showed them necessary moves and incantation. It was 'wingardium leviosa'.

Harry took out his weaker wand, pointed it at feather and thought incantation in his mind. Feather easily shot up almost to the ceiling.

â€žCongratulations Mr Potter. Twenty points for Gryffindor, ten for silent incantation and ten for performing it. Although you should work on channeling smaller amount of magic, amount you used is good for Patronus charm or more powerful spell, but for this one it's a little too much." Said Flitwick and Harry nodded.

â€žI know that problem. Can it be connected with me using rings of Peverell and Potter head?" he asked Flitwick

â€žIt can be. They amplify your power and on their own each gives you power compared to arch mage. I would suggest casting without them again." Explained professor and Harry nodded. He did it once again and feather went to desired hight. â€žAs I thought. Too much power and although I understand why you wear them at all times, because of wards and Occlumency shields connected with them. I would suggest that you would take them off during this class."

â€žThank you Professor for your help." Said Harry and Flitwick only

nodded. This boy was Charms prodigy and would propably study them for all seven years.

â€žYou remind me of your mother. She was extremely proficient in Charms and knew how to combine them with curses and battle magic." Said Flitwick and Harry nodded, he already heard a lot of comments about his parents.

Rest of lesson was spent on smoothing out ruffled feathers and mastering the spell. It was one of most basic and useful spells in wizarding world. Used almost in every department and quite a lot of spells were based on it. After it was time for lunch and after that first hour of Transfiguration, favorite discipline of Magic in Harry's humble opinion. Excluding battle magic, but that wasn't taught in Hogwart.

â€žHarry what did Flitwick told you about Head rings?" asked Hermione

â€žIt's tricky to explain. If I wanted to fully explain to you I would need to start from very beginning of most noble and ancient houses. There were over forty at the beginning, but due to dying out of some of them. Number of them dropped to current twenty four. Each house received from Merlin two rings, one for head of house and second for his heir. All of them provided great magical potential for wearer of it, powerful shields, ability to wield family magic, in times of dire need to call ghost of Morgana La Fey and Merlin and most importantly special ability. For example Potter are natural animagus, Black metamorphomagus and Peverell can control ghost. I'm partially Black through marriage between my grandfather Charlus Potter and Dorea Black. I can control ghost to very small extent." Explained Harry and Hermione nodded. â€žI might give you one of books about it, but it only explains lore known to every typical wizard or witch. Rest is family secret. Heavily guarded one."

â€žI understand. I'm new in this world and don't really know what's going on here." Said Hermione

â€žIt was quite a shock for me, but I got used to it. If you want you can go with me for winter break to family mansion in southern Italy. We usually go there are to Romania for holidays. You will see how wizards behave around each other." Suggested Harry

â€žWhy not." Replied Hermione and Harry nodded happy, that he accomplished what he wanted. She was nice girl, but a little lost in wizarding world. She was also extremely bright one too.

â€žTransfiguration with McGonagall might be fun, she taught me how to vanish and create things, because I needed that to use partial transformation of animagus. For example only eyes so tears could be used as antidote." Said Harry, when they entered the classroom and professor looked at them.

â€žTransfiguration is branch of magic focused on changing thing from one state to another. Can any of you give me example of such thing?" she asked and looked over the class, only Harry raised his hand â€žMr Potter?"

â€žAnimagus transformation or metamorphomagus." Said Harry and

McGonagall smiled kindly.

â€žCorrect. Ten points for Gryffindor. I know you're animagus, so could you show class how it looks?" she said and Harry nodded. He focused on his animal side and when he did that, in his place was beautiful red and gold bird. On its forehead was lighting shaped patch of golden feathers, while rest of head was red. â€žYou can change back." Said McGonagall and he nodded. There was flash of flames and there was Harry once again.

â€žAs you can see he completely changed his form, animagus can use all abilities of his form and even when he is animal he has his intelligence. Most common forms are normal animals, magical are for powerful wizards and witches. In Harry case it's more of inheritance of his grandfather form and ability, who was also a Phoenix."

After that McGonagall showed some incredible feats of power and ability, she changed desks and other things into animals and back.

â€žYour task it to change matchstick into needle." She said and distributed matchsticks. Harry nodded and focused on needles in front of him. He still was learning how to cast without wand and he wanted to master it. He focused on them for ten minutes and they changed into needles.

â€žLack of wand or incantation?" asked amused McGonagall

â€žI try to see if I can do spells without wand. It's still hard and taxing, but I'm managing to do that." Replied Harry

â€žGood idea. Sometimes you don't have access to wand and it's good idea to learn how to cast without it." Nodded McGonagall, pleased that Harry inherited talent for transfiguration. Rest of lesson was spent on mastering how to transfigurate matchsticks into needles and for homework they received twelve inches of parchment about basics laws of Transfiguration. Thankfully it was Friday and they had free time after transfiguration, so they returned to common room to relax and rest.

â€žTonks have time to help with basic transfiguration laws?" he asked his cousin.

â€žWhy not." Said Tonks and he nodded in thanks â€žStandard essay by McGonagall, she loves to give them. Even to older years."

â€žHarry who is she?" asked Hermione, when she saw sixth year student near Harry.

â€žNyphadora Black, cousin twice or once removed. And second person in line to be next Lord or Lady Black. Don't use her full name, because she will curse you pretty badly." Introduced her Harry and Tonks nodded. Whose hair color randomly changed.

â€žWhy your colors change so randomly?" asked Hermione

â€žMetamorphomagus they can change their body shape at will. I keep in such way my hairs in order, so they look like something organized." Explained Harry and she nodded.

â€žAny idea why Quirell wear his funny headwear and stinks of garlic?" asked Hermione

â€žNot to mention, that my scar ache whenever I look into his eyes." Added Harry

â€žYou don't mean he is..." Said Tonks, but stopped when Harry raised his hand.

â€žNot here and not now. We need couple of privacy and protection charms and spells." Said Harry and took out wand and muttered incantation and closed them that is him, Hermione and Tonks in buble of space protected from curious ears.

â€žYes. I suspect he is vessel used by You-Know-Who. That would explain garlic and why my scar ache, but why he is here I don't know. Wait, what did Dumbledore said about third floor?"

It's closed, until further notice." Replied Hermione

â€žBingo, there was attack on one of vaults in Gringott, one that belongs to Nicolas Flamel and Perenelle Flamel. One of most powerful wizards and alchemists." Quietly said Harry

â€žFlamel? Isn't he only creator of Philosophical Stone?" asked Tonks

â€žHe is. Elixir of Life, that's what's You-Know-Who wants. Do not tell anybody about it. I will let discreetly know ones in DMLE to to do random checks of Hogwart." Said Harry and they nodded.

â€žDiscreetly you mean letter to Amelia Bones?" asked Tonks

â€žYes. But now I want to relax and rest. Two hours of transfiguration are demanding. And after dinner I need to sneak out of our tower and be at Transfiguration classroom. Tonks you know spell to make one invisible?"

â€žYes. I will cast it on you. Now your essays. Write them and give me to check. Do not go overboard, she don't like too long essays." Said Tonks and they nodded and took out parchment and books. â€žIf she asks for twelve she means up to sixteen and above ten, if written correctly and with logic. Potions are other story." She said and winced.

â€žSnivelus?" asked Harry, with small grin

â€žYes. I don't know how he managed to get this position. He is biased, lazy, insulting bastard." Said Tonks with hate in her voice.

â€žYou remember our little plan from summer and how my family magic reacts to lies and insulting honor of family?" asked her Harry.

â€žYes. We just need to push him a little. When you have first Potions with him?" asked Tonks with evil glint in her eyes

â€žMonday." Replied Hermione.

â€žGood. Harry wear your dragon hide armor under robes. It will come handy with him." Warned them Tonks and they focused on their essays.

3. Chapter 3

Once Harry finished writing his essay and Tonks accepted that it was good enough they went for dinner to Great Hall and after that he would need to sneak into Transfiguration class. He might as well use wings, he rarely had ability to do so in Griffin house, because he was more focused on learning how to use abilities of Phoenix and he only learned how to fly. Once they ate it, he quickly rushed into their common room and once everybody was inside and was occupied with his own things, he changed into Phoenix and flew out using doors of the room. Few people glanced at him and thought it was bird of Headmaster and promptly ignored him. Some ghost saw that he was animagus, but they ignored him and let him pass. If he wasn't seeking troubles, they ignored animagus, after all they ignored when Marauders used their abilities inside of castle. Once he was outside of common room, in one of many nooks and cranies of the building, he focused on Transfiguration classroom and than he was gone from that corridor in burst of flames. Shocking few people that saw it and they noticed phoenix feather on the ground, he appeared in transfiguration class in another burst of flames and Professor McGonagall was waiting there for him.

â€žGood that you're on time." Said McGonagall â€žAs you're already animagus we will skip first step. You will need to read everything about animal you want to change into. You will work first on manifesting parts of your body into animal."

â€žI sort of can manifest prongs, but nothing more yet." Said Harry

â€žGood. We will work on it for next hour and I will give you couple more books." Said McGonagall â€žI'm well aware of books that you took from your family library and I understand that, but I will also give you few others."

â€žThank you Professor." Replied Harry and on his face appeared frown â€žI spotted someone trying to invade my mind and he was thrown out immediately by my Occlumency shields. I believe that Quirell isn't a person he shows to be. Also when I look into his eyes my scar hurts and I know for sure it was a horcrux."

â€žAre you sure Mr Potter?" asked seriously McGonagall â€žI would like to give me your memory of rituals and DADA class."

â€žYes." Said Harry and placed his wand against his forehead and pulled out thin whisper of thin misty substance. McGonagall conjured two vials and Harry deposited mist in one and pulled out another and put it in second.

Harry raised his wand and muttered old oath incantation of Potter family. â€žI swear on my magic and honor of House of Potter, that everything in those memories is truth and truth only. So mote be it.

Lumos." Light at the tip of his wand appeared as evidence that he wasn't stripped off his magic.

â€žGood, thank you Mr Potter for those memories." Said McGonagall. And Harry nodded, after that they worked till it was well after nine in the evening and than she decided it was enough of work for one day. Also it would be hard to for Harry to discreetly return to his dormitory without raising any alarms. He sneaked out of her room and keeping to the shadows he ran into Lion's Tower, where he sneaked inside, even if guarding painting was a little grumpy about him being so late. Portraits didn't like to be waken up so late, they found it troublesome. Fortunately he didn't ran into Filch od his cat Norris, who was curse of all students living in this castle.

â€žWhere were you?" asked Dean, when he saw him. â€žYou disappeared right after dinner."

â€žMcGonagall, she helped me with animagus transformation into Stag and talked about DADA, there's something strange with the teacher. Don't know what exactly, we will need wait." Explained Harry and took out big, old and heavy book from his trunk. On cover of it was written 'Dark Arts â€“ Artifacts and Ways to destroy them.' He needed to check ways to recognize horcrux and how to destroy it easily. If he was a horcrux, Voldemort propably made great deal of them. He walked back to common room and found place out of view, so chance that he was spotted would be slim.

â€žWhat are you reading?" asked Ron, when he spotted Harry reading book and muttering things about what he read and cursed his luck.

â€žAbout artifacts and how to deal with more nasty ones." Said Harry and scribbled few things on parchment laying besides him.

â€žBasilisk venom, fiendyfire and Dragon fire?" Read Ron â€žWhat are you planning to destroy?"

â€žThings that don't want to be destroyed. We have one of such things in our house and we tried everything to get rid of it." Explained Harry â€žSo out of boredom I decided to go over our library of books and that's one of effects. Although purpose of this book, was more dark."

â€žMore dark?" asked Hermione and widened her eyes when Harry casted privacy charms.

â€žHow to create dark arts artifacts. Although about one I'm searching for I found only references for other books. Nothing concrete, just some notes. But that's enough for day of worrying." Said Harry and closed book and lifted charms around them. He was bored and tired, he needed to work on making his mind defence even stronger and redundant.

He sat on his bed in meditative position, slowed down his breath and entered meditative state where his breath was very, very slow and long, along with a lot slower heartbeat. He needed that to fully focus on his inner self and defence of it. Rings were active constantly, but he needed to properly fortify his mind behind them. Nobody should enter his mind without his consent, if someone did that

he needed to know about it. After all his mind contained a lot of family secrets, that should stay hidden and his incredible arsenal of spells. Some of which were frowned upon and could be rather deadly if wrong hands, especially considering training received by Harry in case of battle magic and dark arts. He learned everything typical Black knew and that was a lot, a lot.

He felt that someone was touching him, his eyes snapped open and glowed gold with few tints of black. He looked around and saw Ron touching him. Who jumped away when he saw his golden eyes.

â€žYou passed out" he said, once he overcame shock.

â€žNo, I didn't. I tried to meditate to see if I have any holes in my mind defense. Someone was testing some of them and I don't want to check if they can get any deeper, without full scale attack." Explained Harry and Neville eyes widened.

â€žDid you say someone used Legilimency on you?" he quietly asked

â€žYes. I can't pinpoint who it was." Said Harry â€žAnd yes, I'm aware of consequences of taking a peak into Lord mind."

â€žWhat are you talking about?" asked Seamus

â€žSorry, I forgot that you're muggleborn. Mind is sacred thing and entering one is crime, entering mind of Lord or minor is even bigger. There's a reason why every heir is taught how to at least detect presence enter his mind, if not how to defend himself. Also rings worn by us aren't only for show, they're powerful wards and shields. Extremely powerful and in battle Lord can stroll through battlefield and ignore Curses flying at him." Explained Neville and Harry nodded in agreement. It was pretty good first day of school for them and they couldn't wait for more.

Weekend quickly passed and it was time for first Potion lesson with Snape. Harry suspected a thing or two about him and gently asking through family sources, also known as Narcissa Malfoy nÃ©e Black. Proved quite fruitful, he learned that he was a _little _biased, but also extremely demanding and had bad history with his family. Very, very bad history with his family and could be nasty to Harry.

At 8 in the morning everybody was waiting in the entrance to Potions classroom very, very nervous about this Professor, but they were unaware that he was today on his best behavior. He got quiet warning from Minerva McGonagall that if Gryffindor would lose more that ten points. Slytherin would lose way more and very, very quickly. Also other heads let their warnings hang.

Snape was tall, thin man with pitch black hairs and pitch black robes, which gave him a dark appearance. Even Harry in his dueling robes didn't look, that dark. He looked dark, but not as much as Snape.

â€žWe will learn here ways how to brew potions. How to create fame, how to make glory, how to brew death and many more. There will be no wand work, only hard work and bit of mind work. I expect only best results, idiots and fools won't be tolerated. Today we will attempt to brew our first potion, but first I want to check your knowledge."

Said Snape and looked over class. Potter looked confident, he almost showed Black arrogance and pride. Which was expected from him.

â€žMr Potter what's the single most potent antidote in known world?" asked Snape, hoping for a chance to remove some points.

â€žPhoenix tears. Unicorn blood is also potent antidote, but is cursed." Said Harry and Snape jaws were wide open. â€žDrinking unicorn blood can reverse effects of even strongest poison, but person that did this will be cursed and her life will be condemned. Unless willingly given."

â€žCorrect. Five points to Gryffindor for excellent answer. It seems that someone did his homework really well." Said Snape and searched for question to shock Harry. â€žMr Potter can you name most potent venom?"

â€žBasilisk venom, some dragon venoms are quite potent ones. But not as strong as basilisk." Replied Harry and at Snape nodded.

â€žCorrect. Five more points for Gryffindor." Said Snape, smirking that he found first decent student in this year. Now was time to test what, if he knew anything about darker aspects of art of Potions. â€žMr Potter can you tell me which Potion requires blood of enemy, flesh of your servant and bones of your father?"

â€žProfessor are you implying that I know Dark Arts?" asked Harry, almost hissing â€žBecause that's recipe for one of most foulest potions, one used by dark lords to return to life, if they had horcrux."

â€žCorrect. Ten points for Gryffindor." Snape congratulated Harry a very clever avoidance of trap and his gaze swept across the class to find another victim of his question. His gaze landed on Goyle from his own house, who was focused on something else than listening â€žMr Goyle where I can find bezoar?"

â€žI don't know" Replied Goyle, a little surprised that Snape focused on his own house.

â€žMs Granger?" asked Snape noticing raised hand of one of Lions.

â€žIn stomach of a goat." She replied with small smile visible on her face.

â€žCorrect, five more points to Gryffindor. Mr Goyle your lack of attention costs you five points." Said Snape and pointed his wand at blackboard, where appeared recipe for it. â€žThat's Potion for today."

Harry copied recipe from blackboard onto his parchment and searched for it in his mum notebook. It should be there, although it was first year potion, it was one of most common used antidotes and every decent wizard knew how to do it on fly. But if done wrong it could melt almost any cauldron excluding brass or gold and some could even explode. Talking about exploding cauldrons, Harry was forced to duck when parts of one passed above his head. And some of the content of it hit him in the face and hand. He was accustomed to magical burns

and wounds, so he clenched his teeth and took out two vials from his belt. One with potion that increased resistance to fire and second with phoenix tears. He drank first and from second he dropped couple drops onto places of burns, which quickly disappeared and skin looked like new.

â€žMr Potter what did you use?" asked Snape, who noticed that Harry didn't care at all about burns. Either high pain resistance or was simply used to them. Propably second considering he was supposed to know battle magic.

â€žPotion that increase body resistance to fire and phoenix tears on place of wounds." Replied Harry and gave vials with both to Snape, who opened and checked their content. Just to be sure it was, what Harry claimed it to be. They were what Harry claimed them to be. But this amount of phoenix tears was worth a small fortune. It was one of rarest and hardest to get substances in known world.

â€žVery good reaction. If I may know, how did you get so much of Phoenix tears?" asked Snape, there were rumors about new animagus and he wanted them confirmed.

â€žI'm animagus and Phoenix is my form. So getting phoenix tears is quite easy for me." Replied Harry and Snape nodded.

â€žVery well. I approve your actions." Said Snape and focused on other students in the room. Who were struggling to brew the potion. Harry meanwhile was finishing it and he poured small amount of it into vial, sealed it, described and placed on Snape desk. After that he had time for long and pleasant nap, so he could rest and catch up on lost night sleep.

After potions they had lunch and moods at Gryffindor table were extremely good, for first time Snape deducted points from his own house. And awarded points to Gryffindor of all houses, which was weird. While between most of houses was friendly competition, between Slytherin and Gryffindor it was always more violent. Not to mention that now members of the same family, that hated each other landed in them. Draco was cousin to Harry, not to mention Tonks and relation between them were at best cold and now they were on break of open hostility.

â€žWhat did you do to Snape that he gave you points?" asked Fred, who had bad memory of Snape and really didn't want to make him angry. And idea of him giving points to Lions was hard to believe, deducting points from his own house was even harder to believe. Maybe better times visited this castle? Or maybe someone forced him to behave nicely.

â€žNothing. Just answered his questions, that's all I did." Replied Harry and looked at twins â€žI heard that you need new seeker for your team." He added in hushed tone. Making sure that only he and twins could hear content of this exchange.

â€žWe need." Replied George â€žIf every tale about your dad and his friends and Quidditch is true, you will be devil in the air. By the way what's your broom at home?"

â€žFirebolt, it's scheduled to be released for public in two years. Bulgarian and Irish National Teams already ordered fourteen each."

Harry said in hushed tone, making sure to speak loudly enough for Twins, but nobody else.

â€žMeet us on the Quidditch Pitch right after dinner. We will see how good you are and Wood, will decide if you're good enough." Said Fred and Harry nodded and quickly finished his lunch. Rest of day passed in blur for Harry. That is until it was time for dinner and Quidditch practice right after it. He dragged one of crappy brooms used by school and walked with it to place where were twins.

â€žHarry Potter" he said introducing himself to one with Captain badge â€žI heard you search for seeker."

â€žOliver Wood" Replied tall and blonde, fifth year student. â€žWe do. Show what you can do and we will decide. For now I will use tennis balls, later we will go for snitch."

They mounted brooms and Wood was throwing balls everywhere and Harry was catching them without any problem. Even with snitch he didn't have any problems, he did some things that Oliver thought were impossible to accomplish. Sure he used crappy broom, but such sense of balance and hand eye coordination was hard to achieve, even harder was perfect timing. Unless someone was accustomed to flying and crazy maneuvers in the air and that was achieved after hundreds of hours. But animagus that could change into bird had huge advantage, their mind was accustomed to calculating how high they were and how much time they had. Wizard inherited some of abilities of his animagus and same was with their habits.

â€žBloody hell!" shouted Oliver, once it was over â€žYou were brilliant. You were almost as good as Charlie Wesley, who could play for England, if he didn't go to hunt Dragons. You need training, learn our tactics and to use your proper broom and we should win cup this year without any problems."

â€žThanks. It was nothing" Replied Harry, sheepishly scratching back of his head.

â€žWe need to talk with McGonagall. But for sure you can owl home for broom. By the way what's your broom? Nimbus 2000?" said Oliver, while they walked back to castle. It was already getting dark and cold, so there was no point of continuing training. They could easily lost Snitch and that wasn't the best thing to do.

â€žFirebolt. Potter and Black control sixty percent of shares and they gave us couple of them to have fun with." Said Harry and noticed that Oliver stumbled.

â€žSame one as one rumored to be used during next World Cup?" he asked, a little surprised that someone managed to get one. Not to mention couple more.

â€žYep." Replied Harry and they arrive at McGonagall office, where she was waiting for them.

â€žProfessor I found a seeker." Said Wood, without any greetings.

â€žMr Potter. I'm not surprised, seems that tradition in family lives. I agree, we will make an exception this year." She replied

with small smile, visible on her face â€žI couldn't stand Severus last year. We need to win cup this year. Owl home for broom."

â€žI don't need to do that. I have one of Marauders mirrors." Said Harry, with small smile on his face. McGonagall nodded, while Wood didn't know what he was talking about. â€žThey were made by my father and his friends during their stay at Hogwart. They allow wielders of them to talk with each other."

â€žYes. They were little clever inventions of greatest pranksters of this school and quite useful during last war." Said McGonagall remembering good old days, when James and Sirius pestered her during holidays when she was usual guest in Peverell Manor to help them with finishing those mirrors.

They left the office and quickly ran to their tower to get things done, so that for next Quidditch training Harry could have his broom. He walked into his dormitory and took out Marauders Mirror from his trunk. It looked like normal mirror and only thing that distinguished it was symbol on back of it, it was sign of Marauder. In Harry case it was Stag, in Sirius case it was Grim, in Lupin it was Wolf and in Pettigrew it was Rat. But his mirror was disconnected from network and nobody could connect with it.

â€žSirius" Said Harry, looking at the mirror.

â€žYes, pup" Replied Black, once he found his mirror.

â€žI was chosen as seeker for Quidditch Team." Said cheerfully Harry and on Sirius face appeared smile

â€žI guess you need your broom." Asked Sirius.

â€žYes. But there's small problem. Rest of team brooms are archaic, beaters are flying on Cleansweeper 5. Could you do something about it?" said Harry, making sure that nobody noticed him.

â€žYou don't think about what I'm thinking?" asked Sirius, with grin visible on his face.

â€žYes, I'm thinking about it." Replied Harry â€žWe both know that six Firebolts won't cost us too much. Especially after take over of LeStrange vaults."

â€žYou have a point. I will owl seven to arrive tomorrow. Give me names of players. I will need to go behind Dumbledore, he might try to distribute them between teams if he knew about it. For sake of fair play." Said Sirius.

â€žOkay, here they are..."

â€žGood. Have fun, pup. Don't spoil a surprise." Said Sirius and Harry nodded and disconnected.

On Tuesday morning everybody was eating their breakfast when giant swarm of owls flew into the room carrying seven thin and long packages, along with seven letters to accompany packages and one letter for Minerva McGonagall. When Harry saw owls he smirked, Sirius knew how to be arrogant, all of those owls were black and that could be connected only to one house.

â€žLooks like Christmas has come early." Said Harry when black owl landed in front of him. Harry recognized it as Regulus, owl used by Sirius for official deliveries. â€žThanks Regulus" he removed package from owl leg and stroke it feathers, and sent him on his way out. Soon another owl landed in front of him, this one had markings of one of secure owls from Gringott and it carried couple of letters from them. Annual report, informations on pending deals and suggestions from his account manager. It was soon after replaced by yet another owl, this one carrying letter from Lady Bones.

â€žDo you know what's inside of that package?" asked Ron

â€žI know. Ask your brothers, they received same one." Said Harry, smirking. People from other tables looked towards Gryffindor one, curiosity visible on their faces.

Oliver Wood was shocked when he saw owls with package landing in front of him, soon followed by another one with letter for him. When he read it, he fainted from amount of emotions. He couldn't believe his luck, almost every Quidditch fanatic in whole school would be green with envy when he will see content of those packages and letters.

Dear Oliver Wood

_It came to my attention that Gryffindor House Quidditch Team needs refreshing of their equipment. In package in front of you is newest Firebolt Sport Broom, it will enter mass production it next year and so far every single one is custom made. If you will have any problems with them, let me know and we will exchange it without any problems. _

I want to see Gryffindor success in winning House Cup, as we did in seventies. Do not open it inside of Great Hall, we don't need people to know that you received gifts, do we?

_Sirius Orion Regulus Arcturus Black _

_Lord of the Most Ancient and Noble House Black _

_Lord Regent of the Most Ancient and Noble House Potter _

_Lord Regent of the Most Ancient and Noble House Peverell _

Gryffindor House Team Keeper 1972-1978

Gryffindor House Team Captain 1974-1978

Winner of House Cup 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978

Similar reaction to Oliver had almost every single member of Gryffindor Quidditch Team, only Harry managed to keep straight face. But he expected such gift and wasn't surprised when Sirius agreed that upgrade was necessary, also Occlumency training helped with controlling emotions, not much but enough.

Minerva McGonagall was smirking when she saw reactions from her

Quidditch Team members, she didn't expected such gift from Sirius, but knowing state of Black vaults that could be expected. They were incredibly wealthy family and they become even richer due to recent acquisition of LeStrange vault, due to declaration of marriage contract as void. And since Bellatrix didn't have any children everything accumulated in her vault was taken by Black family.

â€žMinerva aren't you worried that your students are passing out?" asked Pomona Sprout, teacher of Herbology and Head of Hufflepuff. She noticed that several students that received packages passed out, which was a little suspicious.

â€žNo. They just received great news. You will see them soon." Said smug looking Minerva and showed letter to Pomona, whose eyes widened a little and after a moment she nodded.

â€žInteresting news" she replied and Minerva nodded. And looked at Snape. Who didn't see incoming catastrophe, huge one. Snakes would receive beating from Lions, hell yes. They wouldn't know what hit them and how hard, they would only see effects of it.

Whole Quidditch Team quickly ran towards Gryffindor common room and in middle of it they laid packages and carefully opened them. When they did that, they saw seven identical brooms in gold and red of Gryffindor, with lion etched on side of handle. They looked slim and fast, very fast, they also looked nice. Handle was designed to give us much control and maneuverability as possible, but it also didn't limit its aerodynamics. It was made out of ebony and metal elements were forged by finest Goblin smiths. Other wooden parts of it were made out of finest quality oak, which was throughly checked.

â€žWow, I couldn't believe letter. But now I see its real." Said Oliver. Still looking at broom a little wary, but heck. Such gifts were rare and finally team would be flying at the same speed, which would help a lot during matches. There would be no problems in synchronizing various brooms, they would have same ones and tactics could be more refined. He was team captain and Keeper, his main task was to prevent enemy Chasers from scoring.

â€žI agree, question is who caused this gift." Added Katie Bell. She was one of Chasers, position which required fast and firm broom. They moved around the field and were forced to evade flying Bludgers and enemy Chasers.

â€žThink who is your new Seeker" suggested Wesley twins. Who were Beaters, players responsible for keeping Bludgers away from friendly players and sending them towards enemy.

â€žDon't look at me. I just suggested that idea to Sirius." Replied Harry, who was Seeker. Whose main purpose was capturing Golden Snitch, before enemy could do it.

â€žAnyways. Thanks for gift. Some of us were forced to use school brooms and they were crappy as hell." Said Oliver and at the same time entered Ron, who was shocked by quick disappearance of whole Gryffindor team during breakfast.

â€žWhoa" he managed to say, once he entered the room. â€žNew brooms for whole team. Which model?"

â€žFirebolt, believed to be better than Nimbus 2001, that's supposed to enter the marker during next year. Bulgarian and Irish National Teams already ordered fourteen brooms each. They're supposed to enter market in two years time." Said Oliver

â€žWho? How? When? Managed to get them for you." Asked Ron â€žBut Harry how can you have broom? First year students are banned from having one."

â€žMy godfather, I mentioned that team is flying on crappy brooms and he used Black control over Spudmore & Co. to order seven of them. Before you ask me how much they cost, I won't tell you. I don't know and I don't want to know. About me? Special permission from McGonagall, I was chosen as team Seeker." Said Harry and team nodded. They expected him to be pompous prince and arrogant, but he behaved normally and showed that he was nice and good friend that cared for those that were close to him. And didn't have problems with spending money on them, as it was shown by this gift.

After dinner Harry found empty table and armchair to sort out letter from Gringott, he was expecting one and he needed to do full inheritance test soon. And learn what happened to Invisibility Cloak of his father. He suspected he was heir to one or two more lordship or there were more vaults that he was aware of.

_Dear Mr Potter _

_All of your investments are providing steady and considerate income, I found couple of prospects that might be interesting for you and they are on additional pieces of parchment. As you requested I merged all of family vaults with main one, only exception is your trust vault. I also made list of all family heirlooms and missing ones and I try to establish what happened to them. First effects should be visible around Christmas. _

_Invisibility Cloak that was family heirloom has gone missing and it can be traced to 1st November 1980, when Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore retrieved it from family vaults using his status as your guardian. If you wish we can launch all out investigation to find it, also we can accuse him of thievery and removing one of heirlooms from family possessions. Although I wouldn't suggest this route, he can easily defend himself and it will bring to much attention to your actions. I would suggest confrontation in private about it, he may give it willingly, if not we will launch our own investigation and we will accuse him in front of Goblin Court. _

May your coffers be always full.

Griphook

_Potter Family Account Manager _

That was usual letter and nothing surprising was inside, everything was going according to plans. More important was second part of letter, state of account. Only second part was more interesting and propably would require full investigation, unless it finds itself magically. Which could happen or couldn't, magical heirlooms were tricky as hell, some wanted to be found by heir, while some no. Dumbledore was too intelligent to get cornered and forced to return

Cloak of Invisibility.

_State of Potter and Peverell family vaults. _

_Vault numbers: 14(Peverell Artifacts Vault), 15(Peverell Main Vault), 200(Potter Vault), 900(Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter Trust Vault) _

Peverell Vaults:

Liquid holdings:

_20,000,000 G_

_5,432,869 S_

_1,965,586 K_

Artifacts and Jewels â€“ 500 pieces â€“ worth 50,000,000 G â€“ details on pp 9-15

Family holdings:

Griffin House, Yorkshire, England â€“ worth 20,500,000 G

Peverell Hunting Lodge, Calabria, Italy â€“ worth 3,500,000 G

Summer Manor, Toscano, Italy â€“ worth 15,900,000 G

Winter Castle, Romania â€“ worth 15,690,000 G

Shares â€“ cumulative worth 40,000,000 â€“ details on pp 16-18

Potter Vaults:

Liquid holdings:

_59,856,745 G_

_2,500,639 S_

_1,200,696 K_

Artifacts and Jewels â€“ 200 pieces â€“ 15,000,000 G â€“ details on pp 5-8

Family holdings â€“ 20 estates â€“ cumulative worth â€“ 90,000,000 G â€“ details on pp 2-3

Shares â€“ cumulative worth 50,000,000 G â€“ details on pp 3-4

Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter Trust Vault:

Liquid holdings:

_20,000 G_

_50,000 S_

_15,000 K_

Note â€“ refilled yearly to such state

â€žBlimey, I knew you were rich. But I never knew that you were that rich." Said Ron, when he read papers laying in front of Harry.

â€žI can't access main vaults yet. Only for artifacts. So I'm not that rich." Said Harry â€žCompared to Black fortune or even Greengrass it's not much. Not to mention that someone was trying to take away as much as possible from it and goblins are furious. They estimate that couple of millions and few artifacts disappeared."

â€žBut still. You also don't behave like prince." Said Ron, a little surprised that Harry didn't behave like another Malfoy, who showed his absurd wealth to everybody and tried to rub it in their faces, and usually got smacked.

â€žI treat money as another tool, nothing more." Replied Harry and went back to reading. He had also quite a lot of homework to do and Professors were giving more and more of them.

Days turned into weeks and it was already middle of October and time for first match of House Cup. It was also most violent match, one where broken bones and snapped jaws were normal occurrence, also on hallways there were duels and brawls between members of houses. It was time of annual Slytherin versus Gryffindor match and usually winner of it was team that would claim Cup.

From the early morning atmosphere in school was tense, heck there were even first duels and brawls. And Professors were forced to interfere and distribute points deduction, and detentions. And there were still few hours before match and by time of the match atmosphere could escalate and be close to exploding.

School Quidditch Stadium was packed full by professors and students, and their families. Even whole Black family appeared which caused quite a stir, when they were noticed by Dumbledore and McGonagall who was Head of their House.

â€žFirst match of the year is today! Gryffindor versus Slytherin!" shouted Lee Jordan â€žPlayers entered the field."

Gryffindor team flew onto the field on their new brooms and they circled it few times in typical formation for such things. Seeker leading, followed by two Beaters slightly behind him, who in turn were followed by two Chasers and formation was closed by last Chaser and Keeper. Spectators were shocked by their speed and grace in the air, they looked also more confident. After two rounds around whole pitch they took their positions and waited for Madam Hootch to release balls.

â€žThey have new brooms?" asked amused Minerva, hiding her smirk.

â€žIt seems so. I wonder who paid for them." Replied Filius Flitwick

â€žI believe I can answer your questions." Said Sirius and Professors nodded in agreement â€žWhen I heard in how bad state were brooms of Gryffindor team I decided to do something good for school. Those are my gifts for our team."

Harry wasn't playing as typical Seeker, he played as interfering Seeker. Seeker normally is fully focused on searching for Golden Snitch and catching it. Interfering Seeker plays as fourth Chaser and joins normal three in attacks, but first of all tries to incapacitate enemy Seeker. It was rarely used tactic, mainly because Seekers were usually too weak to, but Harry thanks to two year of training in preparation for hour lasting duels was quite fit and pretty strong for his age.

It started pretty normally Chasers and Beaters were fighting in middle of the field, while Seekers were circling overhead trying to spot the Snitch. Harry feinted that he saw gold near ground and started steep and fast dive towards the ground, making sure that Snakes Seeker was following him. When he was sure that enemy Seeker would crash into it, he started rapid ascending towards game height. It was one of more risky moves, but extremely useful when executed correctly. He almost missed it this time and his feet touched ground.

â€žHarry! Start helping Chasers" shouted Wood and Harry nodded and joined his team Chasers in causing chaos and destruction in enemy ranks. Slytherin was playing a losing game and Lions wanted revenge for previous defeats, and with better and way faster brooms they were flying circles around their opponents. It turned into massacre, not an actual match. While Seekers were banned from scoring, they could pass Quafle to Chasers.

But it was pretty obvious that Slytherin team was getting impatient and irritated, they started playing dirty and penalties were given. After hour and half of match score was 400-20 and everything suggested that it would turn into most crushing defeat of Slytherin in long, long time.

â€žHarry! Go for Snitch!" shouted Wood and Harry nodded and started climbing to have a better view of field. There it was! He easily spotted Snitch and started rapid dive to catch it, he flew past Slytherin defender and caught it and landed on the ground. Final score was 570-20.

Snape was furious, supposed swift victory over Gryffindor was turned into disaster. They even prepared for whole night of celebration and now there was nothing to celebrate. First Lions got new seeker, who was as good as his father was at his job. Second they got their new brooms, which were too good and lastly they had plan and they swiftly executed it. Much to his anger and annoyance, and Minerva McGonagall won't let pass such opportunity to show that Lions were superior.

â€žThat's the most crushing victory in hundred years! Final score is 570-20!" shouted Lee Jordan and three quarters of stadium madly cheered, while sector occupied by Snake supporters was deserted of them, they left once it was obvious that match turned into humiliation.

Once Gryffindor team left the changing room, they were immediately caught by rest of Lions and carried over their heads to common room, to celebrate their victory. For first time in long time Snakes were showed their place. While Snakes lurked in shadows and out of the way of anybody, Lion's Tower was propably loudest part of castle. After whole group returned there, they were shocked to see McGonagall enter shortly after them.

â€žGood job team. Officially I will say that I will disapprove of party, but unofficially you may party all night. I won't be snooping over you like vulture. Have fun." She said and left the room.

â€žThat was unexpected." Said George â€žShe is always strict and now she tells we can do whatever we want to."

â€žYes. But that's not unexpected." Said Oliver and stepped onto table and coughed to get everybody attention. â€žI want to thank you for believing in us, helping us in achieving what we achieve. But true reason of our success is Harry Potter! I want all of you to move for next couple of days together, Snakes are angry and will try anything. I talked with McGonagall and we can safely defend ourselves without any consequences. Now party!"

Once Oliver said those words on tables appeared food and drinks for everybody and they were to say the least really happy. Snakes learned their place and they could boast that they had highest victory of the century. Snape would be hard to tolerate for next couple of weeks, but McGonagall would distribute plenty of points for various things to show gratitude and award Gryffindor team. Since it was Saturday and most of people already did they homework party ended around three in the morning and nobody really wanted to stop and everything looked like it would start again, tomorrow after breakfast.

When Lions entered the Great Hall for breakfast they were welcomed by thundering applause from Ravenclaw and Hufflepuff, while Snakes and Snape tried to shrunk in their places and not be seen by anybody. They looked like they were ready either to disappear, or to murder someone on sight, but that was suspected. They were so embarrassed and furious by their defeat or more properly massacre of team that, they needed to let go loose those emotions. Which was main reason why Oliver wanted Lions not to move alone, especially around areas where there were Snakes.

They were also bombarded by howlers from furious parents and even Snape wasn't spared from this treatment, they received howler after howler and it looked like this stream would never ends. But honestly speaking they were innocent, they just assumed they would win, instead they received crushing defeat at the hands of their greatest enemy.

4. Chapter 4

**A/N - I have huge stockpile of chapters so I will publish two more this week and than I will try to publish once per week. Hokage's heir is going onto third place. I want to think over certain piece of plot, which is crucial for future development of plot. **

**This chapter is shorter, because I wanted to end it in reasonable

place, I saw no reason in writing 1,3k additional words if they weren't needed. It covers time from Slytherin match till 2nd November. **

* * *

><p>After Gryffindor and Slytherin game Harry became even more popular inside of Hogwart and especially inside of Gryffindor, they felt that new and good times approached their team and knew that Harry was one of reasons why it changed. Classes were still fun and interesting, they started learning more interesting charms and spells and there were rumors that soon there will be a dueling tournament held inside of school and everybody would be allowed to participate. Even first year, but they would be forced to start from bottom of the ladder, while higher years would be placed higher.<p>

Snape was as bitter as usual or even more, considering that his team was crushed by Gryffindor in opening match of season and before it he tried to boast that Slytherin would win another Quidditch Cup. But he was so wrong about this, so he wanted to let loose his anger and his target was Harry Potter and he started deducting points and giving detentions. But Harry and his friends didn't care about it, more important was dueling tournament and Halloween Feast that would be on day after tournament. Even if Harry didn't celebrate Halloween due to obvious reasons, he still wanted to enjoy it in the castles, some of his friends noticed his change of mood when end of October was approaching. They tried to approach him, but he ignored them completely, like they didn't exist, he was focused on himself and fate of his parents.

â€žHarry stop being so focused on yourself." Said Hermione when they were in common room. Unaware of consequences of her actions or people reactions when they heard those words.

â€žHermione! That's enough!" hissed Neville, who knew reason behind Harry behavior â€žI can't believe you're so thick. Think what happened eleven years ago in Godric Hollow, exactly on the day of Halloween."

â€žWhat do you mean?" she asked not aware that she entered waters full of sharks. When she said those words almost everybody looked at her like she was an idiot and couple of people drew wands. That was one of most known tales in wizarding world, especially among younger population

â€žI will say it only once. On Halloween night his parents were murdered in front of him. So let him sort it out on his own." Hissed Neville â€žOcclumency unfortunately cause every memory to be almost perfect recollection of events, so he can see it like it happened yesterday and even when he tries to forget he can't. And there's nothing that can help with such trauma, only time can heal those wounds."

â€žI see" managed to say Hermione and ran off towards her dormitory. Bursting in tears on her way there. Everybody had enough of her behavior and she choose worst person to attack, and she needed to be told straight in the face why her behavior wasn't liked. Couple of older people thought about telling her to shut up, but decided to stop and let Neville handle her.

â€žI will talk with her" Said Tonks and Neville nodded â€žOctober was always hard for him and Sirius. Sirius blames himself for actions of Pettigrew and Harry still needs to get over it. It's getting better, but they need time."

After that clash Hermione was distant, but few days later she managed to somehow understood what she did wrong. But everybody was living about dueling tournament that would be held just on the next day.

â€žAre you sure about competing Harry?" asked Ron, after he heard that Harry would be taking part in it.

â€žYes. If you don't believe me ask Dora or even McGonagall, both of who saw my skills in dueling." Replied Harry, who was busy with taking out his dueling robes. Which were in his house colors red with gold additions and Griffin was stitched on back of them. While on front of them, on right breast was visible crest of his house. In addition to dueling robes, typical thing to wear for such tournaments was dragon hide armor worn underneath robes. Dueling robes allowed greater range of movements than normal ones and were made from thicker materials. While normal battle mages of Potter wielded two-handed staffs Harry didn't know how to wield one, so he only carried his wand. Also he needed to modify typical dueling style of house, because normally it was based on staying behind powerful shield and using blood magic. Which was frowned upon and he preferred not to be accused of Dart Arts knowledge, which would be bad for him, really bad. He didn't need to have same reputation as Nyphadora, who was followed by reputation of Black. Which was dark, while house of Potter was one of staunchest supporters of light and one of the most influential as well.

On the day of tournament classes were canceled and everybody gathered for early breakfast, after which participants would leave to prepare for duels and they would once again gather on Quidditch Stadium to duel. While rest of school would be watching from stands. Which would be heavily warded to protect from stray spells and curses, not to mention transfigurated objects.

Harry ran towards his dormitory to change into dueling robes and when he appeared in them, his hairs tied into ponytail everybody was focused on him. He moved with typical grace and arrogance of trained wizard, one that knew he was better than his enemies and was eager to prove it.

â€žWhat are you wearing?" asked Hermione, when she saw him and blinked couple of times. Her senses were assaulted by a lot of red and gold with few dark patches here and there.

â€žTypical dueling robes in colors of my house, normally I would wield also a staff, but they're problematic to handle so I only have my wands." Explained Harry and Neville nodded.

â€žAt least they look better than dress robes, which weight couple of kilo and are full of gems and gold." Said chuckling Neville.

â€žYes. Never mention those terrible things." Said Harry and Neville nodded. Almost every wizard hate dress robes and wore them only if he needed to do so, otherwise they ignored them completely and wore normal or dueling robes. Which were less extravagant and more

practical, in formal ones people could boil inside of them from amount of gems and gold worn.

When he left Lion's Tower attention of everybody was focused on him, he looked deadly and not many people expected first year student to participate in such tournament. When he arrived at Quidditch Stadium he saw that most of participants were already there. One of them was Draco Lucius Malfoy, who looked at Harry with hate and disdain visible in his eyes and posture. He thought that he was better than Harry, soon to be proved wrong. Harry recognized couple of familiar faces from other houses Susan Bones, daughter of Amelia Bones, head of DMLE and Lady Bones. Also close friend of Potters, she was from Hufflepuff, other such person was Cedric Diggory. Another person from Hufflepuff and their team Seeker, whose family was somewhat allied to Potters. He nodded in their direction in greeting and they responded in kind, other person that he recognized was Daphne Greengrass from Slytherin, her father was close friend of Sirius and Harry met her couple of times during various meetings and get together. They were at least on cordial terms and didn't care that other was sorted into competing house inside of Hogwart.

In middle of field stood Filius Flitwick, who would be tournament referee and he would decide who won duel and who lost. Also all questionable situations would be brought to him. He was head of Ravenclaw, but was known for his lack of bias and being just in punishing people.

â€žBefore we start. Some general rules, we fight until opponent is unable to fight or forfeits. If I say it's over its over. Play clean." He announced â€žFirst fight will be between Harry Potter and Draco Malfoy. Fighters to me, rest leave the field."

Everybody nodded and fighters approached Flitwick and bowed to each other, although it was obvious that one from Draco was mocking bow. He still didn't respect Harry, even if his mother wasn't approving his actions and pushed him into forming at least neutral relations with Harry.

â€žStart!" shouted Flitwick and jumped out of the way. Draco and Harry jumped from each other and started slowly circling each other, searching for holes in enemy defenses. Trying to assess strengths of enemy and their weaknesses and their fighting styles, along with potential mistakes in them. Harry was using style developed for auror, which was based on powerful shields and showering enemy in curses from safe distance. While Draco was using typical dueling style taught by almost every instructor, to stay in place and to shower enemy in curses.

â€žSerpensortia" Yelled Draco and from his wand shot out twenty feet long snake. That started slithering towards Harry. Who was amused by Draco choice, couple of people learned that summoning Snakes near Harry wasn't healthiest idea.

â€ž_Attack him, not me!" _Hissed Harry in Parseltounge and snake bowed to him and turned towards Draco and started approaching him. People started muttering when Harry showed knowledge of Parseltounge, ability known to Salazar Slytherin and one that gave him control over snakes. Snakes were forced to obey commands given in Parseltounge, even over wishes of their summoner.

â€žVipera Evanesca" Said Draco and pointed his wand at snake which disappeared â€žStupefy-Sectusempra-Petrificus Totalus" shouted Draco and launched chain of spells towards Harry, who dodged them without any problems. Draco did one of greatest mistakes made by wizards during battle, he stood in place and didn't dodge. He simply stood there and watched effects of his spells, only to be hit by counter.

â€žExpeliarmus!" Yelled Harry and shot beam of red light towards Draco, who was too slow to dodge it and he was disarmed pretty quickly.

â€žVery interesting fight, I must say" Said Flitwick, once he appeared near duelist. One of which didn't have his wand in hand â€žHarry Potter is winner. Next fight will be between Blaise Zabini and Fred Weasley."

Fights continued in such manner until it was time for finals and to shock of many Harry managed to advance to them, while defeating many seven or six year students. Mainly to their own embarrassment, but final fight would be vicious. Nyphadora Black versus Harry Potter, everybody knew who taught them art of dueling and how to fight. Considering reputation of Black, curses could be flying everywhere and some of them might be rather dark. She wore same dueling robes as Harry only in black and silver of Black and with their Eagle on back of them.

They marched to the middle of field and waited for Flitwick to start the fight, once signal was fired they jumped away from each other summoning powerful shields and started launching spells at each other. Harry summoned slabs of stone and other materials and used them to block any and all attacks from Tonks, much to her annoyance. He had plenty of energy to burn and he was using his larger reserves to fullest extent, he couldn't afford getting into close range. She could easily use her experience and better understanding of magic to defeat him, while at long range he could safely use his humongous reserves.

â€žHow he can fight in such way? That's one of most exhausting ways and he was already fighting dozens of duels." Asked Snape.

â€žYou are forgetting about rings worn by him, they give him plenty of energy to burn." Said Flitwick and focused on watching duel.

â€žAlso he knows better not to enter fight in close range. She has more experience and she would easily beat him when he would approach her." Added McGonagall. â€žHe won't close the distance, until he is ready to start final attacks."

It was obvious for everybody that those two were so far testing waters and were searching for openings in their enemy defense. When Harry had enough he activated shields that were on the rings and started moving forward. Her attacks harmlessly bounced off his shields and he was able to start launching attacks on his own. He started with simple conjured whips and arrows made out of flames and Tonks intercepted them and sent them towards him. Harry decided to finish this fight as fast as possible. He started casting of stunning spells, mixed with disarming, but to his disappointment Tonks dodged all of the and was able to disarm him pretty easily. He did mistake

with coming into close range, where she could use her superior experience and better understanding of magic, along with luck. However he had two giant handicaps, one he wasn't using his staff that was quite different than wand and two he was playing fair. If he used blood magic and magic that made Potter famous she would be defeated, but also dead. There was quite a lot of spells which connected two fighters and cursed one of them and used his energy to power second. Also he wasn't using Unforgivable Curses, curses so dark that they resulted in one way ticket to Azkaban and life sentence there. Those were Imperius, curse which allowed to take control over somebody. It was great problem during last war, because nobody knew for sure if someone was under influence of one. Next was Cruciatus, curse which caused great deal of pain to enemy, when it him him. It was reason why parents of Neville lost sanity during last war. They were tortured for so long that they snapped and their mind were unable to heal after that adventure. Last was Avada Kedavra, killing curse. Even glancing hit from it was equal to death of target. Also most shields couldn't do much, only slow it down. Best idea was to dodge it and disable enemy that was using them. He was biggest problem out of all enemies present on battlefield.

When Harry and Tonks finished fight everybody was speechless, area of duel looked like hell. There were pieces of stone everywhere, ropes, pieces of wood and other things they conjured to protect themselves from getting hit. When people got over fact that it was over they slowly started clapping and soon it turned into roaring applause, first to congratulate them great fight were Flitwick and Dumbledore.

â€žVery impressive fight." Said Flitwick and gave Tonks cup â€žMr Potter that's not your first duel? You fight like someone used to deadly spells flying all around you."

â€žNo. I dueled with Sirius couple of times and it was pretty even." Replied Harry and Flitwick nodded. After all it made quite a lot of sense, after all he was his godfather and one of better duelist.

â€žYou fought really well, there are some holes in your defense, but overall for first year student you did really good." Said Flitwick and Harry nodded in thanks.

â€žThank you Professor. I rarely have opportunity to duel someone and today was one of such occasions, so I couldn't let it pass by." Said Harry, while they walked to castle for feast. Tomorrow would be Halloween, so there were pumpkins everywhere and such decorations started to appear all over the castles. Almost everybody was in great mood, Professors weren't giving any assignment for such weekends and classes weren't as hard as usual, only History was typical nap time for everybody. Same as DADA for everybody excluding Harry, who used it to catch up on some reading that he didn't have time to read before.

When they woke up on the day of Halloween they could see pumpkin decorations everywhere in the castle and smell of baked pumpkin could be smelled everywhere. Also it was one of days when they didn't have any classes, it was mainly to do homework if they had any and to relax. Harry woke up early in the morning, as he usually did and took out one of books he wanted to read by never had chance. It was 'The Tales of Beedle the Bard' but he wasn't reading them for his own

amusement, there were quite a lot of useful tidbits of information if people knew for what they were looking. For example there was tale about Deadly Hallows, which were quite real and were in possession of Peverell family. Or more correctly used to be in possession of family until recent times, but getting them back should be only a matter of time.

That book gave watered down version of history, but nonetheless it was true. Only couple of artistic additions weren't real, such as Death, but things created by those three brothers were true. Really true. They were most important and most precious heirlooms of Peverell family, ones that were so precious that they caused blood feuds over the centuries.

â€žThe Tales of Beedle the Bard?" asked Ron, when he saw book read by Harry.

â€žYes. If you know for what you need to look you will find quite a lot of useful data, especially about my family. You remember tale about Deathly Hallows?" asked Harry.

â€žYes. Invisibility Cloak, Elder Wand and Resurrection Stone." Said Ron, remembering that tale. One of his favorite.

â€žWhat you would say if I told you that they are real. Very real. They were in possession of my family from the very beginning, we lost Stone and Wand, but we always had Cloak. If I'm right Stone is in possession of Tom Marvolo Riddle, I prefer this name than his nickname. Wand is in this very castle, propably Cloak is also here." Explained Harry and focused his magic and sent single pulse of it, through whole ground. It beeped twice. â€žYep, they're here."

â€žI won't believe you until I see them." Said Ron and Harry nodded.

â€žGive me two months and you will have proof. If I'm right I will get one as gift from Dumbledore for Christmas. One that should be safely locked inside of my vault." Said Harry and Ron nodded. Than signal for feast sounded and everybody hurried to Great Hall for feast. Decor of Great Hall was completely changed, now there were flying carved pumpkins, ghost were happily flying and looked differently. More real, because on this day line between life and death was thinnest and if someone died on this day, chance that he would become the ghost were the highest. But still they were slim, he needed to be a wizard and he needed to choose to remain on this world, only exception were dark lords with horcruxes. Their souls were bound to this world, and as such when their body was killed, they changed into wrath. One that was forced to live there until all or horcruxes were destroyed or they got a new body, either through possession or through some dart arts ritual.

When they were in middle of feast, into the Great Hall ran Professor Quirell in bloodied clothes and pale face. He looked like he saw a ghost, or even something way worse. Something that completely scared him and caused him to panic.

â€žTroll in the dungeons!" he shouted and passed away. In Great Hall there was chaos and everybody was shouting and running in panic, not knowing what to do. That was until Headmaster got over the shock that wards allowed someone to enter unnoticed onto the grounds. Which

shouldn't happen at all, they were designed in such way to block any people that wished harm to inhabitants of the castle. Only exception were wraiths that borrowed someone body and used it to get inside of the cattle, because they were hidden by presence of person that didn't wish any harm to people. And once they were inside they weren't detected by security and only if someone knew for what he was searching he could find them.

â€žSilence!" Yelled Dumbledore and fired couple of sparks from his wand to get attention of everybody. He was forced to repeat it few more times, but finally he managed to get everybody attention.

â€žPrefects gather your students and walk with them to their respective common rooms. Professors and I will search the castle." Announced Dumbledore and everybody nodded. It made quite a lot of sense.

â€žBlimey, where is Hermione." Hissed Ron, when they were going out of hall.

â€žShe was in girls bathroom on this level. Knowing my luck she will run into troll." Said Harry â€žLet's go and rescue her. Wands at ready." He added quietly and they disappeared from main stream of students leaving the Hall and ran towards bathroom, where they saw giant footprints on the floor and other signs that troll was nearby. When they entered the bathrooms, they saw giant troll hovering over Hermione. Harry focused all his anger, misery and hatred into spell he wanted to cast. But he also focused will to protect his friends and family, so he could safely use it. Normally such spells were casted based on hatred and anger, but they could be also casted using will to protect. He wanted to distract troll, so this one was perfect to do such thing. It didn't do too much of damage, but it caused enough of pain to distract it and force him to look at one that caused it, not a prey in front of him.

â€ž_Crucio!_" he yelled and from his want shot out green beam of energy and when it hit troll, it started wailing in pain and turned to see where was Harry. Who wanted it to focus on him, especially when it was in pain. They rarely were intelligent and they liked to charge at their enemy, when in pain. Chance that they would charge would be even higher. Harry and Ron were forced to jump out of the way of troll and it was standing in middle of castle corridor. Looking around, it tried to charge at Harry, but it stopped when curse hit it.

â€ž_Reducto!_" shouted Harry and when his spell hit the troll, it neck snapped and it landed on the ground without any signs of life. And at the same time professors run into the corridor. And stopped in their tracks when they saw troll and recognized signs of curses used on it. If they were right someone used Cruciatus on it, which was interesting idea to say the least. Followed by Reducto, which snapped his nick and was thing that killed it. But amount of energy pushed into it was rather high, not every spell was able to defeat tough hide of mountain troll. It wasn't as hard as basilisk or dragon, but it was hard enough to stop weaker spells.

â€žWhat are you doing here?" asked McGonagall â€žYou should be in your common room."

â€žHermione was here and we rescued her." Replied Harry and Ron nodded, who meanwhile dragged Hermione from bathroom. She was a little shaken, but otherwise she was fine.

â€žBut still, fighting mature mountain troll is risky." Said McGonagall and they nodded. â€žFive points deduction for each of you for breaking rules and Mr Wesley and Potter earn ten each for behaving like true Lion should." Harry was running on the adrenaline only and when he heard that he wasn't going to be punished he sighed in relief and lost consciousness from exhaustion.

â€žMagical exhaustion." Said Sprout once she caught Harry and did couple of diagnostic spells. â€žHe used too much magic. He should be fine after good night rest and healthy meal." Meanwhile Dumbledore walked and picked up Harry wand and winced in pain, when her defence kicked in. It hurt like hell, but he needed to check it using Priori Incantantem and see what charms or spells were used by Harry. Evidence suggested curse or hex strong enough to break troll neck and previously used was one that caused immense pain and left burn marks all over the body of victim.

â€ž_Priori Incantantem" _whispered Albus and watched with fascination when previous spells appeared. He stopped breathing for a moment when only second one appeared. It was one of Unforgivable Curses â€“ Cruciatus.

â€žLike father, like son. Black were always dark." Murmured Snape, when he saw it.

â€žNormally I would agree with you, but not in this case. It was pretty ingenious idea to lure this troll out of the bathroom. It distracted it and gave him opening." Said Albus â€žDo not mention it to anybody. He needs rest without any gossips about Unforgivable Curses."

When Harry woke up he immediately saw that he wasn't in the common room, those weren't four posters bed and everything was white. _â€žhospital" _he thought and looked around. He saw that on his nightstand were his wands, but people were sensitive enough not to touch his rings. Everybody knew that touching those rings was risky, very risky.

â€žI see that you're awake" Said Madam Pomfrey, who walked in and checked his vitals. â€žYou're good as new, you can leave any moment. But I believe that Professor Dumbledore wants to talk with you first."

â€žOkay." Replied Harry and raised in bed and looked towards doors, through which walked in Albus Dumbledore wearing purple robe with silver and golden stars. Small flames were as always visible in his eyes and smile visible on his face.

â€žHarry, good job with that troll. Although spells used by you, shouldn't be so recklessly used. Cruciatus is Unforgivable Curse for a reason, do not use it, unless you don't have any other option. But in that situation it was best approach, you needed to distract it and lure it out. So I will let it slip." Said Dumbledore and Harry nodded.

â€žThank you Professor." Replied Harry â€žI understand. Can I go back

to my house and common room?"

â€žI believe you can. You heal almost as fast as did your father, who was often guest here, especially after his pranks that went wrong." Said Dumbledore,. Harry nodded, dragged himself out of bed, caught his wand and looked at the doors leading outside. â€žYou have nice wand. Both of them to be exact."

â€žWhat do you mean, Professor?" asked Harry, a little shocked by those words.

â€žOne is from your animagus form and second has core same as Voldemort one. Feather from tail of my phoenix." Said Dumbledore and added louder â€žFawkes." There was flash of fire and in it place stood beautiful red and gold bird, with majestic wings and typical regal grace, that was connected with phoenixes.

â€žProfessor how do you know that I'm animagus?" asked Harry, taken aback by those words.

â€žI suspected it from the very beginning, rumors that there is new animagus were flying all around Hogwart from first day of school. Than you showed it on Transfiguration and later you produced phial full of Phoenix tears. Finally your wand, it caused pain to me, when I picked it up. Only things closely connected with owner will defend themselves." Explained Dumbledore â€žI won't tell about it to anybody."

â€žI will take a leave." Said Harry and escaped before Dumbledore could get even more things out of him. That was enough for one talk, he wanted to keep rest of his secrets intact. Without mind probes from Headmaster trying to learn what he knew. He quickly walked to the Lion's Tower and when he entered it, he searched for Hermione and Ron. Who were sitting at one of small tables that were set up around the room.

â€žI wanted to say sorry for my behavior." Quietly said Hermione and Harry nodded. He wanted to get over those bad me more saw. â€žAnd to say thank you for rescuing me."

â€žIt was nothing. After all those are valors of Gryffindor." Said Harry, sheepishly scratching back of his head.

â€žBut you risked your life to save me." Tried to protest Hermione.

â€žI'm used to such monsters." Said Harry and noticed look from Ron â€žWhat do you want?"

â€žWhat did you use on that troll and why did you passed out, after it? Also about what Unforgivables were they talking?" asked Ron

â€ž_Reducto _and _Cruciatus_. I passed out of exhaustion, second spell is extremely taxing. Both on body and mind. About Unforgivables? They were talking about three curses which used on man, unless in self-defense will give you one way ticket to Azkaban. Imperius, Cruciatus and Avada Kedavra. I know how to cast every single one of them, but I won't show you it. Propably ever." Explained Harry and they nodded. It was start of friendship that

should last for years, but only future will show how long it would last...

5. Chapter 5

After adventure with troll Ron, Harry and Hermione got closer. Also into their little group joined Neville Longbottom, who was one of closer friends of Harry. Days quickly flew by and it was almost time for second Quidditch match of the season. Gryffindor versus Hufflepuff, everybody was excited about it and outcome of it. Also winter finally came and everything was covered in thick layer of snow and on the surface of Lake appeared ice, also nights were getting really long and it was getting cold. Really cold, winter was in full swing and it only was second half of November, which was a big shock for everybody that was in the school. Not many people expected winter to be earlier than first week of December, but it was a pleasant surprise for them and opportunity to have fun outside and to convince Professor Flitwick to show heating charm.

On the day of the match everybody was in good moods and compared to atmosphere from before the Slytherin versus Gryffindor match, it was peaceful. There were no brawls or duels in the hallways of school, which was expected. Between Hufflepuff and Gryffindor there was very healthy competition and they held each other in great respect.

When whole stadium was full, almost half of it was in red and gold of Gryffindor, while second half was in yellow and black of Hufflepuff. Nobody expected it to be as brutal match as it would be.

â€žPlayers entered the field. There are no surprises in Gryffindor team, but it looks like Hufflepuff captain decided to choose strength and weight over abilities." Announced Lee Jordan and Harry thought that he was right. Cedric Diggory was smallest one out of all opponents, every single one of them looked like mountain of meat. Propably they decided to counter Gryffindor tactic and prevent Harry from playing as interfering Seeker. They learned from Slytherin example that leaving him unguarded would be an extremely unwise thing, of course unless someone wanted to lose few dozens of goals. He could leave him unguarded, but nobody wanted that. When Harry saw setting of Badger team, he immediately flew towards Oliver Wood.

â€žWhat I should do? We assumed that they won't have mountains of muscles as players." He asked, worry visible in his voice.

â€žKeep their seeker away from Snitch, there's no point in you appearing closer to their Beaters than necessary." Said Wood and Harry nodded and flew away. â€žFred keep their Chasers busy. Break bones with Bludgers if you need to. George same with their Beaters." He shouted towards his own Beaters, who nodded and looked at their enemies.

â€žThis is going to be funny and deadly." Said Ron, when he saw Hufflepuff players. â€žThey're giant mountains of meat, nothing more."

â€žI agree." Said Seamus Finnigan â€žHarry won't be able to play in same manner as he did during last match. He is strong, but not enough to survive any hit from those things."

â€žHe is natural in the air, so he should easily be able to maneuver around them, but Snitch is his first priority. After all he can use his bigger speed and escape them." Added Tonks, who was watching carefully this game. It didn't look too good.

None of them noticed couple of wizards in green and white of Ireland team, along with few in red and black of Bulgaria and couple in red and white of England. They were scouts from national teams and were scouting for their teams in search of Seeker. From those two Harry Potter was their main interest.

It started pretty normal Chasers and Beaters were fighting in middle of the field and tried to get the ball and score the goal. While Seekers were circling overhead and watching for Snitch. But it soon changed after first goal.

â€žKatie Bell git the Quafle, she passed it to Angelina Johnson, who score!" Yelled Lee Jones â€žScore is ten to nothing for Gryffindor."

After that first goal Hufflepuff Beaters got nastier, two Bludgers were sent towards Oliver Wood, who was hit by them. Straight in stomach and he bent over his broom from pain.

â€žFoul! You do not attack Keeper unless your Chasers are in the scoring area! Penalty for Gryffindor!" Yelled Madam Hootch and everybody winced. But quickly complied. Katie Bell took Quafle from her and flew towards Hufflepuff scoring area. She easily scored and it was twenty to nothing for Gryffindor and game only started. And things would get only heated, way more heated in fact. Soon there would be accidental collisions of bats with faces. And other 'accidental' things, much more dangerous than just fouls. After that penalty Hufflepuff lost all their patience and started playing dirty. First victim of it was Harry Potter who received glancing hit from Warrington's bat to his arm and it almost broke his arm. But fortunately it managed only to cause great deal of pain to Harry, who loudly cursed. So badly and loudly that everybody starred at him, when he finished. After that Fred Wesley bat accidentally caused collision of his bat and Warrington nose. And broke it in the process, and caused rain of curses from Hufflepuff supporters. While Gryffindor supporters nodded in agreement. Badgers started whole brawl and they should be happy that Warrington ended only with damaged nose and small bleeding.

â€žFoul! Foul! Unprovoked attacks against Gryffindor Seeker and Hufflepuff Beater! Penalty for both teams!" Yelled Madam Hootch and teams nodded. Although they looked angry at each other. From Gryffindor team Katie Bell executed penalty and scored, while Moran from Hufflepuff didn't manage to. His shot was defended by Oliver Wood, who was propably best Keeper in whole school. After that accident all restrains were gone and penalties were distributed to the right and left. Fred Wesley was circling around Harry Potter making sure that he was safe from such attacks. While George was sending bludger after bludger towards Badger Chasers. When that battle in the air was over, score was 400-300 and Gryffindor won, they lost most of those points due to penalties. Over forty were distributed to both teams and everybody was more or less battered by hectic match in the air and was slowly limping towards the dressing rooms, and after that towards the castle.

â€žI never saw so vicious match. I always thought that Slytherin versus Gryffindor were vicious, but this one is on completely new level." Murmured Tonks

â€žAlways must be the first time." Said Ron, trying to cheer her up. She was a little shocked by amount of hits taken by Harry during the match. Propably people in best shape were Keepers, at least they were somewhat spared from brutal treatment that everybody else didn't miss.

â€žI suppose. But Badgers won't be happy. I guess that they will be victims of pranks courtesy of Wesleys and Harry." Said Tonks and looked towards the castle.

â€žI hope we will be spared from it." Quietly said Ron

â€žWe should be. Or at least that's my hope." Replied Tonks and after that they walked towards the castle in peace.

When Harry walked into dressing room and removed his Quidditch robe he was shocked by amounts of swelled or injured places. Thanks God that all of his bones were in one piece, because he could feel few torn or damaged muscles. He took out wand and started muttering incantations for healing spells to at least solve most pressing issues, rest could heal on their own. For now he wanted to walk on his own and without too much pain. Couple of hits went towards his knees and they hurt like hell, because of those hits.

â€žWhat happened to you?" asked Tonks, when Harry walked into Lion's Tower. Slightly limping on his left leg.

â€žI lost count after three bludgers and two bats. I healed worst of wounds and damage. So if you could kindly patch rest of it. I would be happy." Said Harry and tried to lay on couch without single muscle screaming in pain. After few tries he found way to do that and Tonks started working on his leg.

â€žWow, pulled tendon. Couple of nasty bruises, cracked bone and those are most serious." She murmured and started healing it. So he could start fully use this leg. At least in healthy way, all aurors or hit wizards were taught ways how to force limbs to work if they were damaged. It wasn't safe to be used for a long time, but for couple of minutes it was good enough solution. â€žYou must use this way? You could take a potion and it would be half as bad."

â€žYou know that I don't like that potion, so using magic to create temporary tissues is easier for me." Said Harry, between one breath and another.

â€žTemporary tissue?" asked Hermione â€žI didn't find any information about such things in our books."

â€žBecause you shouldn't be able to find it there. It's one of kind of illegal spells, it basically force body to temporarily patch nerves, muscles and other tissues so that they can work. Longer you use it, the harder to repair it is." Explained Harry.

â€žDone." Said Tonks after twenty more minutes.

â€žThanks. It was good idea that you learned healing magic during last summer." Said Harry and Thanks nodded.

â€žI'm thinking about Auror Academy after I finish Hogwart and healing magic is rather useful in such job." Said Tonks and Harry nodded and dragged himself to his dormitory and to bed. He was exhausted and his whole body was aching, it was healed but even healing spells left some sort of ache. At least good thing was that only month was before Christmas break and he would have time to relax with family and friends. He needed to go over the list who of his friends would be coming with them to Italy. For sure Hermione, propably Weasleys Ron, George and Fred, who were his partners in crime in many pranks. Propably Neville Longbottom, Susan Bones and propably Cedric Diggory, he was only Hufflepuff Quidditch player that didn't play dirty against him. All of whom were on good terms with family.

Days quickly passed and on hallways and in the classes started to appear Christmas decorations, trees and other decorations. Also it looked way more friendlier than during rest of the year, when most of places were bare. For Harry it was time to see who would go with him on family holiday to Italy to one of their Manors. They would use portkey to get there from Hogwart, or to be more exact from Hogsmeade. Because of wards placed on Hogwart they couldn't directly apparate or use portkey from those grounds.

â€žHermione do you want to come with me and my family, and couple more friends for Christmas break to Italy?" asked Harry, when they were walking to one of classes.

â€žSure, Where exactly?" she asked, her interest piqued.

â€žToscano, it's better for such holidays. We have small lodge in Reggio, but it's more suited for training in battle magic and dueling." Said Harry and Hermione nodded.

â€žWhy not. It looks better than my other options. That is staying in England with my parents or staying here." She said and Harry nodded.

â€žI had similar options." He nodded and they continued to walk in silence. Next on his list were Weasleys.

â€žRon, Fred, George" he said, when he entered the common room. Their heads snapped up and looked at him.

â€žCome here" said Ron and moved on sofa, to make some room for him. â€žWhat do you want?"

â€žWhat you would say about spending whole Christmas break in Toscano? Maybe you will learn something about pranks from Moody and Padfoot, who will be there. Along with couple of my friends." Quietly said Harry, making sure that only they could hear him.

â€žWhy not. At least it will be better than staying here or at Burrow." Said Ron

â€žMoody and Padfoot?" asked George and received nod in response â€žWe will be there."

â€žGood" Replied Harry â€žMeet me at the Gates of Hogwart on the day when train will leave, we will use portkey to get there."

â€žWhy portkey? I hate that way of transport." Murmured George

â€žFor apparition it's impossible. Because only I can do that and it would kill me, when moving so many people across continent. Also there are too many wards placed all over the mansion and for Floo same reason. Too much time." Explained Harry and twins nodded and gleefully smiled. Week and half with two greatest pranksters in history of Hogwart would be priceless to develop new pranks.

On the 21st December when term ended and Winter break started every single of Harry's friends, he and Tonks gathered in the Entry Hall to walk to border of Hogwart and from there to jump to Toscano. They slowly walked there, chatting between themselves and having fun. Most of them knew each other and were on at least good terms. When they crossed the border of wards Harry picked up nearest rock and focused on it.

â€ž_Portus_" he said and it glowed blue and turned into portkey. â€žOkay everybody, touch this rock. When all of you will be touching it. I will activate it and we will jump to Toscano." He said and everybody walked to him and formed circle around rock and put their hands on it, while in second they were holding their trunks. When everybody held it, Harry activated it and they disappeared from Scotland, only to appear few minutes later in much sunnier Toscano. They landed on plush red and gold carpet with Griffin in the middle of it and with Semper Fidelis under it. Walls were covered in tapestries and wood. Most of them landed in heap on the floor, while Harry and Tonks were able to stand upright.

â€žWhere are we?" asked Hermione, once she took a long look around the room and saw that everything screamed rich. On the ceiling was painting of another animal with other coat of arm and other motto. 'Aut consiliis aut ense' which mean 'Either by meeting or the sword'. That animal was winged horse, but one that looked quite weird, hollow eye sockets, bony wings.

â€žPotter Summer Manor." Said Harry â€žTake any room you want that don't have Prongs, Moony or Padfoot written over the doors. Prongs is mine and you can enter whenever you want." Said Harry and their small group nodded and walked to find some rooms. While Harry walked into his room. It was arranged in same way as his room in Griffin House. That's plenty of gold and red color and large Gryffindor banner hanging on one wall and couple of armchairs here and there. Set of drawers, wardrobe and small bookshelf with his favorite or most useful books. Also there was a perch for Hedwig, who would fly from Hogwart on her own and would arrive tomorrow or maybe sooner. Also there were third doors leading into bathroom.

Manor was designed in similar fashion to old Roman villa, after all it was one. Although heavily redesigned one. In middle was open area surrounded by porch and from there you could walk into every part of the manor. Behind it was full sized Quidditch Pitch and Dueling Ground that allowed everybody to train. Underground was library protected by powerful wards that allowed pass only for those that were allowed by Head or Heir. Nobody else could enter it. Mansion was sitting in middle of hundred acres of land, there were several wine

yards and forested areas.

When Harry changed into somewhat comfortable clothes he walked out of the room and looked around trying to find where his friends choose to stay. There were plenty of rooms to choose from and every single one of them had doors leading onto porch surrounding inner garden. Also there were small Griffin stables as well and there were over ten mounts ready.

â€žFred did you see full size Quidditch Pitch?" asked Harry

â€žAre you kidding me? You have full sized pitch?" asked Fred

â€žYep. Behind the house. I want one day play for Ireland or England, so I train when I have time and opportunity." Said Harry and at the same time Ron and Hermione appeared.

â€žYou want to play for Ireland? One of best teams in the world?" asked Ron, not believing what he heard.

â€žYep. You don't know, but during our matches there were Irish scouts and they said that if I will develop at such rate in two to three year time I will be offered to join their team." Said Harry and took out letter from Irish Team Manager.

â€žYou didn't tell us?" asked angry Fred.

â€žSorry. I couldn't do that until now. It's very hush, hush type of deal." Explained Harry and they nodded in agreement.

â€žMimsy!" said Harry, looking at nobody particular and there was loud popping sound near him.

â€žYou called, sir?" asked house elf.

â€žYes, could you bring me book that grants access to library?" asked Harry and elf nodded and appeared few moments later with large book. â€žThank you." After that Harry looked at other people. â€žSign your names in this book, it will give you access to parts protected by privacy wards."

They nodded and quickly did as told and Harry closed the book and it disappeared. It was book that was connected to all privacy and blood wards around the mansion. If someone didn't sign his name here, he wouldn't be granted access to those rooms.

â€žFred, George, Cedric take your brooms and you will see this Quidditch pitch. Rest of you can do whatever you you want. In library off limits are three parts, dark arts, blood magic and family magic. From rest you may take whatever you want or need." Said Harry and people nodded. He quickly ran to his room to take out his Firebolt and walked with it onto porch running along back wall of his room. He waited there for other people and when they were there. They mounted brooms and launched into the air.

â€žYou weren't joking about that pitch" Said George once he saw it. It was visible from the place where they were.

â€žI wasn't. Half of family loves Quidditch so we play it from time

to time, but mostly I'm polishing my seeker skills. You saw what happened to Snakes Seeker during our match." Said Harry and angled slightly towards the pitch.

â€žHe crashed into the ground. Quite painfully." Remembered Fred

â€žYep. Cedric you should recognize this move I did during that match." Said Harry, looking at fourth year Badger.

â€žYep. WroÅ„ski Feint. One of most dangerous moves, but Slytherin had bad luck. They didn't suspect you to do such thing." Said Cedric and Harry nodded.

â€žYes. I have list of things to learn and polish, before they will think about signing me. But at earliest it will be in year and a half." Said Harry. â€žUnless I will get lucky and we will find loophole that can be used."

â€žYou're extremely lucky that they approached you. Many wizards wish that such chance appeared in front of them." Said Badger and Harry nodded in agreement. While they were flying they were also watching ground underneath. They were flying over green meadows and forests that were surrounding manor. There were also quite a few of wine yards there and small herds of horses running on the ground below.

â€žI know. At first I was shocked that I'm on their wishlist. Can you not tell about it to anybody. I would like to surprise them when it will be announced." Said Harry and dived towards the ground. Followed by rest of group.

â€žSure." Replied George and other nodded in agreement. â€žWhere are you going?" he asked Harry

â€žTowards mansion. Padfoot arrived and I think you want to talk with him about pranks in Hogwart." Explained Harry and on their faces appeared big grins.

â€žWe want. We have idea for prank, but we need to polish it a little before we can use it." Said George and Fred nodded in agreement.

â€žPlease don't use it on me. Use it on Snakes." Suggested Harry and Cedric nodded vigorously.

â€žCan be done." Said Fred and followed Harry who was slowing down to land in the garden. He landed and was quickly followed by rest of the group.

â€žSirius!" shouted Harry, when he saw last Black.

â€žHey pup. I see you brought some friends." Replied Sirius

â€žYep." Said Harry and Sirius nodded and looked around. Trying to recognize people, he recognized most of them. Which wasn't surprising, as he knew a great lot of people.

Rest of day was spent doing nothing and getting to know each other, also rest of guests started appearing through various portkeys or

using Floo network. Problem was only with first move, because it must be either heir or head, so he could add people to whitelist and allow them to enter.

When Harry woke up on the day of Christmas, he saw pile of gifts laying between legs of his bed. It was a large pile of gifts, that shocked Harry a little. He expected a lot of them, but not that much. On top of pile was book(?) from Amelia Bones. Yep, book. It was Auror textbook, with many useful spells and data inside, with note attached to it. _'It may help you with spells,_ _have fun and think about following in footsteps of your father. As hit wizard' _Next was new Seeker equipment from Sirius and giant pile of sweets, so big that Harry couldn't believe it was possible. More books from Hermione, McGonagall and Lupin, and even more sweets from them. Wizarding chess set from Andromeda, it was one of best wizarding games and ones that were quite fun. New wand holster from Tonks, but thing that most shocked Harry was small, thin package laying at the bottom of the pile. It was light, very light. When he tore the paper from it fall small note and cloth that was silvery, and warm.

_Dear Harry _

I hope that you use it well. Your father gave it to me to study.

_Have fun using it. _

Albus Dumbledore

â€žIt's impossible. That's Invisibility Cloak." Murmured Harry and at the same time Ron opened doors.

â€žIs that Invisibility Cloak?" he asked, when he saw package in Harry hands. Only one type of cloak looked like it.

â€žLet's find out" Replied Harry and threw it over his shoulders and his body below his head disappeared. Like it wasn't even there, it simply was gone from view. But it was still there, just hidden.

â€žWow" managed to say Ron â€žThat's Invisibility Cloak"

â€žYes" Said Harry and kept digging through rest of presents. There were even more sweets, couple more books from various people, but thing that got his attention was pocket broom kit. Allowing for quick servicing, even when in middle of nowhere. From Fred and George he received pranking tools and from Marauders same thing, only tad more advanced and photo album from their time in school.

â€žWhat did you get?" asked Harry

â€žSweets, sweets, sweets, couple of books and few miscellaneous things." Said Ron and at the same time Fred entered the room.

â€žIs it only me or someone really loves Quidditch here?" he asked and Harry eyebrow, almost disappeared in his hairs.

â€žWhat do you mean?" asked Harry

â€žNew Beater equipment and Quidditch Through The Ages." Explained

Fred and Harry only scratched his head. He didn't expect that kind of things. â€žGeorge received same thing."

â€žOkay" Slowly said Harry and looked through his pile of gifts â€žQuidditch Through Ages is from Hermione. Equipment from Sirius, he is as big Quidditch freak as is McGonagall or even bigger."

â€žWhat's that?" asked Hermione, when she entered the room and saw thick and large black book with auror star on the cover of it.

â€žGift from my aunt couple times removed and head of DMLE." Said Harry and throw it at Hermione, who caught it, opened and her eyes widened when she saw title of it.

â€žAuror textbook? You know how hard it's to get this? Half of school would kill you, just to see it." Said Hermione and Harry only nodded.

â€žI know, at least I will have what to read at Hogwart during long and boring evenings or during History of Magic."

â€žPoint for you" Said Hermione and Harry nodded.

Once everybody unwrapped their gifts and checked them, and talked about them they gathered for typical Christmas meal. Unfortunately for many of them Professors gave a lot of homework for such breaks, only advantage of this one was that they had couple of aurors, or retired ones to pester for help. Most of which would agree just to stop them from pestering and let them relax. But unfortunate thing during Christmas was also Yule Ball and all heirs and heads of houses were forced to attend. So on 25th Harry, Sirius, Amelia, Susan and Neville were forced to stop relaxing and dress into dress robes and go to Ministry. Harry wore dark red robes with house Incals over his left breast and it was finished with gold of Potter and in all buttons were set diamonds, but also instead of his normal piece of leather that kept his hairs in order, now he wore piece of gold shaped into flame like thingy.

â€žWhat are you wearing?" asked Hermione, when she saw him in that robe.

â€žFormal dress robe of house head. Which weight enough to make them extremely uncomfortable and you can boil inside of them from amount of jewels and gold on it." Explained Harry â€žI wish we weren't forced to attend to it, but Irish National Team Coach wants to meet me and Sirius."

â€žYou look funny in them." Said Hermione â€žBut have fun during Ball."

â€žI will try to have." Replied Harry and walked to fireplace to get to Ministry Atrium. When they arrived in the Atrium. He, Amelia and Sirius walked in front of group.

â€žWelcome to annual Ministry Yule Ball. Please follow me." Said wizard, in immaculate ministry robes and guided them to golden doors leading to main ballroom. When they entered the room he slammed his staff against the floor and announced. â€žLord Potter and Peverell,

Lord Black, Lady Bones, Heir of Bones, Heir of Longbottom."

When those words were heard everybody stopper chatting and immediately focused on group that entered the room. Towards them walked Cornelius Fudge, Minister of Magic to greet them.

â€žLord Black" Politely said Fudge, with forced smile on his face.

â€žMinister of Maguc" Politely said Sirius â€žYou propably never met my heir and Lord Potter."

â€žNo I didn't." Said Fudge and looked at Harry.

â€žThan let me introduce him" Said Sirius and gently pointed towards Harry â€žThat's Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter."

â€žNice to meet you" Said Fudge, with pleasant, but not fake smile on his face and extended his hand.

â€žThank you Mr Minister." Replied Harry and same procedure followed with rest of people. After that they started mingling with crowd, while gently steering towards their target. That is Irish Team Manager, nobody sane would think that some serious talks could happen during such ball. Too many ears and reporters everywhere.

â€žMr O'Malley I presume" quietly said Sirius, when they spotted man in dark green robed.

â€žYes." Replied man and looked more carefully at them. â€žHarrius Potter and you are his guardian?"

â€žYes" both Harry and Sirius said at the same time.

â€žGood. My scouts were impressed by your abilities and once you will begin your third year of Hogwart, we would like you to sign contract with us. For now we offer you invitation to our summer and Easter training camp. Later we will need to work on fitting our training into your normal timetable." Said O'Malley and Harry looked at Sirius.

â€žWhat do you think about it?" asked Harry

â€žI will say that this kind of offer happens once or twice per lifetime." Replied Sirius and Harry nodded.

â€žSince he doesn't object, I think I will agree." Carefully said Harry and Irish Coach nodded. â€žWill I be able to play for my house team at Hogwart? I would like to win couple of trophies there."

â€žGreat. I don't see a reason why you shouldn't play there, any game experience will help you in future. I will send you an owl with details later. I won't steal more of your time."

â€žThank you Mr O'Malley" Said Harry and they disappeared once again in the crowd and started enjoying that kind of event, if it was possible. Harry started moving towards Greengrass family. Who spotted him and discreetly moved towards him.

â€žLord Greengrass, Lady Greengrass, Daphne" quietly said Harry. He was Lord, so he could use names of heirs if he wished to. While they should use his title, unless he allowed them to use his name.

â€žLord Potter" Replied Lord Greengrass â€žShall we drop the usual dance and go into normal talk?"

â€žOf course" Said smiling Harry, he was bored of all those usual pleasantries and other crap. Sometimes it was useful, but not when talking with friends. It bored everybody and there was no point in doing it.

â€žSo what do you think about this little ball?" asked Daphne, who was trying to stay close to Harry.

â€žNot bad. At least I managed to avoid couple of less that pleasant people. Most of which are Snakes, if you know what I mean." Said Harry, trying not to anger Daphne, since she too was from Slytherin.

â€žMalfoy and his usual gorillas?" she asked with amusement visible in her voice.

â€žYes, I can't believe how they landed in Slytherin. Their plots are so obvious." Said Harry and looked around. And noticed few reporters from Daily Prophet and Quidditch Magazine approaching them.

â€žAny idea what those reporters want from you?" asked amused Daniel Greengrass.

â€žLet's say I was seen talking with Manager of Irish National Quidditch Team." Replied Harry and smirked, when he saw reactions on faces of people around him.

â€žYou're joking, aren't you." Said Daphne, not believing her own ears.

â€žI'm not. Shall we dance?" asked Harry, hoping to deflect those reporters. Daphne only nodded and let him led herself to dancing floor.

â€žLord Greengrass" Politely said Sirius, when he found, one for whom he was searching.

â€žLord Black. They're dancing nicely, aren't they." Replied Daniel Greengrass and pointed towards Harry and Daphne.

â€žThey are and they nicely avoided those reporters." Said Sirius and picked up goblet full of wine.

â€žYou mean escaped from those vultures?" asked Lady Astoria Greengrass.

â€žI was polite one. But vultures are fitting them quite well." Jokingly said Sirius â€žThey look a lot like James and Lilly."

â€žThey are. I wonder if their friendship will turn into something more." Said Astoria and Sirius looked at her.

â€žWhat do you mean?"

â€žYou know what. It's too early to say that, but that thing may turn into love. One day or another. Also now they're too young for love, let them have fun on their own." Said Astoria and pointed towards Harry and Daphne, who finished their dance and reporters started crowding around them.

â€žWe may as well rescue them from those vultures." Said Sirius and walked with Daniel Greengrass towards small crowd.

â€žYou were seen talking with Irish National Team Manager. Can you tell us what was topic of your talk?" asked Quidditch Magazine reporter.

â€žUsual pleasantries and couple things about Quidditch." Replied Harry.

â€žRita Skeeter, Daily Prophet. There are rumors that you're on wishlist of couple of national teams. Can you comment them." She asked

â€žThey're only rumors. So far I didn't receive any offer." Replied Harry and started moving towards Sirius and David Greengrass.

â€žAnnoying vultures" grumbled Daphne, when reporters let them go.

â€žYou weren't one that was forced to answer questions." Said Harry and Daphne glared at him.

â€žBut still." She mumbled and Harry chuckled. He actually enjoyed being in spotlight.

â€žI think we will take a leave. You can chat in Hogwart." Interrupted them Sirius and Harry nodded. Nobody wanted to stay longer during those balls than necessary and they did what they needed to do. And as such they could just return home.

Harry Potter new Irish National Team Seeker?

By Rita Skeeter

_During yesterday annual Yule Ball held at the Ministry Ballroom Lord Harrius Potter and his Lord Regent Sirius Black were seen talking with Manager Aiden O'Malley of Irish National Team. Both of them confirmed that they were talking, but refused to give any details about content of their talk. But our independent sources confirmed that Irish Team scouts were seen during Gryffindor versus Slytherin and Gryffindor versus Hufflepuff Quidditch games in Hogwart and they were praising Gryffindor Seeker. _

_We want to get answers! Is Harry Potter going to be playing for Ireland? Or is he going to play for England? _

_My independent sources confirmed that he agreed to offer made by Aiden O'Malley and he will join Irish Team once he will begin his third year. Is he betraying England? Boy-Who-Lived? How dare he? He

should be thankful for being allowed to attend our premiere Wizarding School._

â€žThat bastard!" shouted Sirius, when he read whole article. â€žShe somehow managed to overheard whole conversation!"

â€žWhat happened?" asked sleepy Remus, woken up by sudden outburst of anger.

â€žRita Skeeter is beginning another smear campaign." Said Sirius â€žAnd I'm not going to let it pass."

â€žWhat did she do this time?" asked Amelia Bones

â€žYou know that Harry and I were talking with Manager of Irish National Team and it was supposed to be private. We used all kinds of charms to protect ourselves." Said Sirius

â€žAnimagus is only option left. Unregistered one." Murmured Amelia

â€žI agree with you. What about accusing her?" suggested Sirius

â€žNot good idea, better would be to visit her with aurors. But we will deal with it once break is over." Said Amelia and Sirius nodded in agreement. It made quite a lot of sense. â€žI'm more worried about Harry and reaction in Hogwart, some will seethe in anger. While rest will support him, problem will be with who do what."

â€žWho will seethe in anger?" asked Harry, when he appeared in living room and noticed Sirius, Amelia and Remus talking about something.

â€žPeople in Hogwart, by the way how is doing your homework?" asked Sirius, wanting to tease Harry and unsettle him.

â€žPotions and History of Magic left." Replied Harry and Sirius laughed.

â€žSorry about that, but History of Magic is so unless that even complete nonsense will give you A. About Potions do it and forget." Said Sirius â€žSomeone in this room has potions mastery, so you can pester him or her for answers and help."

Rest of Christmas break passed in pleasant atmosphere and once everybody did their homework they spent time playing Quidditch, doing nothing or riding on horses and or griffins. For many of them it was one of best winters and they were sad that end of it came so quickly. But they couldn't escape the fate and on 1st January morning everybody gathered in the hall to go to England and to King's Cross 9Â¾, and to return to Hogwart on the same day.

6. Chapter 6

On the January 1st Neville, Susan, Harry, Cedric, Ron, Hermione, Fred, George and Tonks used Floo to get to the England and from there they used portkey to get to the station. When they landed on the station attention of everybody focused on Harry and his friends. Most

of which was focused on Harry, who was rumored to be joining Irish National Team soon and everybody wanted those news to be denied or confirmed. First to spot them was Daphne and quickly walked to them.

â€žHey Daphne, how was your break?" asked Harry in greeting.

â€žHey, quite good." She replied â€žWe can talk more in one of compartments. Let's find some free ones and take them."

â€žYeah" Replied Harry and they levitated their trunks and walked into last car and took two compartments, one near second. In first sat Daphne, Harry, Tonks, Neville, Ron and Hermione. While in second rest of their group.

â€žAny expectations about this term?" asked Daphne

â€žNot many. Maybe I will check third floor." Said Harry â€žI suspect what's hidden behind those doors."

â€žWhat?" asked Ron and his eyes widened, when he saw looks exchanged by other people in the compartment. They knew something and it wasn't good. Tonks and Daphne were putting as many privacy charms as possible.

â€žDo you remember news about break into Gringott vault in the summer?"

â€žYes. Nothing was stolen from it."

â€žBecauss that thing was retrieved earlier that day and moved to Hogwart. Vault into which someone broke into is owned by Nicolas Flamel."

â€žIt rings some bells." Said Hermione â€žBut nothing concrete."

â€žFamous alchemist, potion master, wizard and few other things." Said Harry â€žBut that's not important, more important is his greatest alchemy achievement. Philosopher stone or more exactly byproduct of it. Elixir of Life."

â€žYou don't mean that in Hogwart, we have Philosopher Stone hidden on third floor?" asked Ron

â€žWe have. I think I will see what's guarding it." Said Harry and looked at Tonks, whose hairs changed colors at random speed and into random shades of more vivid ones.

â€žYou want to break into guarded corridor?" asked Hermione â€žYou want to break rules?"

â€žDidn't I do that?" asked Harry â€žLet's see. Couple of pranks with Wesley twins. Cruciatus on mountain troll, did I miss something? Not to mention no Trace on my wand, being unregistered animagus, apparition without passed exam."

â€žIf I'm right nope." Replied Tonks â€žThat's all."

â€žSo I break the rules and don't care about it. So breaking few more

won't do anything bad to me. Only couple of points loss or few weeks of detention." He said and their nodded. Almost at the same time doors to their compartment opened and Draco Malfoy was seen standing there.

â€žBlood traitors, half bloods, muggleborn and poor. Interesting choice of company Greengrass." Said Malfoy, who was accompanied by his usual gorillas.

â€žFuck off Malfoy." Snarled Harry and rose from his seat. â€žYou don't want to make me angry."

â€žOr you will do what? Send letter to your godfather?" sneered Malfoy and paled when he saw that Harry revealed his Black heir ring, and prepared to slice his palm open. â€žYou won't dare to do that."

â€žYes, I will do. So disappear and don't bother us." Said Harry and threw him out, and closed doors behind Malfoy.

â€žWhat the hell happened? Why he got pale when you wanted to slice your palm?" asked Hermione.

â€žHe wanted to invoke Ritual of Judgment or Oathbreaker." Said Daphne â€žIf he would let him to finish it, Malfoy would be dead by end of it."

â€žIt was Judgement. Malfoy would be dead, because he swore loyalty by blood, by oath and by magic to House of Black. So I can call magic to pass judgment and consequences can be severe." Explained Harry â€žBut that can wait. Now I want to forget about him."

â€žI agree." Said Tonks â€žExploding snap?"

Games allowed them to forgot about passing time and Malfoy and soon they were arriving at the Hogsmeade Station. Where they left the train and walked to carriages without visible pulling animals. At least everybody excluding Harry couldn't see them, he saw winged horses that didn't look too appealing. They looked like half rotten carcasses with bony wings and empty eye sockets.

â€žThestrals" Said Harry, when he saw them. â€žThey can be seen only when you see death of person. I can since my ring has small amount of hairs from them inside of metal. You remember that big painting at the ceiling of house in Italy? That's representation of Thestral."

â€žThey look better when invisible." Said Neville, a little pale when he remembered that particular painting.

â€žYes." Agreed Harry â€žTheir hairs, are used to make invisibility cloaks, although mine is special. Read Tales of Beatle the Bard and you will learn why."

They got inside and soon they were at the stairs leading into the castle, which were bustling with people entering the castle. It was end of break and as such many people returned at the same time and crowd was everywhere. While prefects and heads of houses tried to make any sort of order there. Harry simply casted notice-me-not charms on everybody and started pushing his way through it. People

were grunting and looking angry, but moved aside, nobody wanted to have stay longer than they needed. But also nobody wanted to deal with angry group that had drawn wands. Which were used to move their trunks, but also could be used to attack someone. So Harry and his group quickly passed this small roadblock and walked into the castle and towards their areas. Which were in completely different parts of it, while Lions had tower almost at the entrance to castle. Badgers and Snakes had their places around dungeons and entrance there was on opposite end of it.

When they entered their common room they were first to arrive there, as almost everybody was stuck at the entrance.

â€žFred, George can you create distraction?" asked Harry â€žIn two hours time. I want to peacefully check corridor on third floor."

â€žAny target?" asked Twins, with looks of glee and happiness.

â€žQuirell." Said Harry.

â€žAnything in particular?" asked Fred

â€žWe can turn his life into horror." Added George

â€žNo. Something to keep him busy for few hours, other professors too. If you can manage that, if not only Quirrel." Said Harry and they nodded, and started preparing distraction around DADA class, which was on first floor at the opposite end of castle. â€žTonks, Hermione wants to come with me?"

â€žSure." Said Tonks and Hermione nodded.

Hour and half later twins sneaked out of the tower and into area around DADA classroom, it was time to test ideas developed during their Christmas break. Let's say that half an hour later all hell broke lose. First it started innocently with simple transformations of furniture into rather nasty looking plants and sudden appearance of swamp in the classroom. Where thankfully was nobody present, next thing was more subtle. People walking through the area suddenly changed colors of their hairs and clothes. First to fall victim of it were couple of first year Snakes that were passing by. Soon in classroom there were couple of nasty looking snakes and crocodiles. Although charmed not to attack anybody.

â€žFred and George Wesley! I'm going to kill you!" Yelled Minerva McGonagall, when she saw disaster caused by them.

â€žWhat they did this time?" asked Percy Wesley. Who happened to walk by and heard shouts coming from his enraged head of house.

â€žOnly turned classroom into swamp and couple less irritating pranks." Said McGonagall â€žAlthough I wonder who helped them execute those pranks. Those are owl and newt level charms."

â€žThey were staying with Harry during Christmas break, somewhere in Italy." Supplied Percy and McGonagall shuddered at the sole though of Fred and George meeting Sirius.

â€žThan that's explain everything. Sirius Black helped them with it, along with one sixth year Lion and one first year." Said McGonagall and started to clean the whole mess. While Harry was able to do what he wanted to do.

â€žYou can go" Said Fred, when they returned â€žWe left couple of gifts in different parts of castle and one around DADA will take them couple of hours to dismantle."

â€žGood. Keep your annoying brother of my tail." Said Harry and threw Invisibility Cloak over himself, Hermione and Tonks. â€žGhost might see us, but shouldn't tell a thing about it."

â€žI will try to keep an eye for them." Said Tonks and they slowly walked towards third floor, while avoiding main passages. Which were crowded at any time of the day and walking under Invisibility Cloak would be dangerous, people would see them as empty part of passages that can't be occupied. So some could get brave and try using stunners or summoning spells on them to summon invisibility cloak. So once they left the doors from Lion's Tower on first level, they quickly walked up to third floor, using only old and forgotten passages. So that they could move without troubles, after that they quickly hurried across Great Stairwell and turned right and appeared in front of large doors. Without any sort of the lock in them, which caused raised eyebrows from them.

â€žLet's see what's guarding those doors." Said Harry rising his wand _â€žManufesto"_ from tip of his wand shot out multiple red and gold lines, which connected with doors, which glowed blue. And there was one spike of red.

â€žOne tracking spell and no other protection?" asked Tonks, once she saw the results.

â€žYes. Dumbledore is getting senile. If there are no protection on those doors, I don't want to see what's next. I will say we will see some monster. Any ideas?" said Harry, while casting few more detection charms.

â€žCerberus" Said Hermione

â€žGriffin" suggested Tonks

â€žI would say Dragon." Said Harry and moved to the doors. â€žPrepare stunners or any defense spell you know." He said dropping cloak, that was hiding them. He gently and slowly opened the doors and was greeted by loud and powerful roar. Followed by dozens of barks and few more roars. When he saw what was inside, he saw giant three headed dog, with flaming hairs on his head and nasty looking tail. One that reminded Harry too much of Hungarian Horntail.

â€žIs that Cerberus?" asked Hermione, when she saw that animal. With its three sets of jaws bared and ready to bite. It's head didn't look too appealing.

â€žYes" Said Harry and slammed doors close. â€žAt least we know what's the first obstacle is. We need to find a way to get through him, without using killing spells. Stunners are good, but we would need huge quantities."

â€žI will go through school library for details about Cerberus." Said Hermione and Harry nodded.

â€žTonks can you help me with going through our library?" asked Harry â€žIt's a little too dark for my taste to show it to you Hermione. At least not yet. Try to get Ron to help you with school library."

â€žYes." Both of them replied

â€žI wonder what Fred and George did in DADA classroom." Wondered Hermione, a little curious of effects of their pranks.

â€žI wonder what they did. I showed them couple of charms that can change things into swamps. But they shouldn't use them." Said Harry, while they leisurely walked to area where was DADA class. They saw swamp slowly growing out of the classroom and expanding into corridor.

â€žWhat's going on?" asked Hermione, a little shocked by charm that grew on its own.

â€žViral charm." Replied Tonks â€žBut that shouldn't happen... No, they didn't learn this charm."

â€žThey did." Said Harry, with grin on his face. And slowly turned around, when he heard cough behind him and feeling of dread washing over him. â€žHow can I help you Professor?"

Behind them was angry looking McGonagall in robes covered in mud and few bite marks from insects and couple of swellings, while trying to deal with that prank. Her wand was pointed at Harry, while her eyes were sweeping across faces of whole group.

â€žDetention with Professor Flitwick for two weeks. Twenty point loss for each and fifty for each Wesley. Now tell me what charms were used, since you know what they used." She said and they only nodded. Flitwick was one of those that did useful things during detentions. It was better than Filch or Snape.

â€žThey used modified viral charms, ones that spread over everything, not only from one being to another." Explained Harry and McGonagall eyebrow rose a little when she heard it. It was well above owl level.

â€žI see." She said and swished her wand around, while muttering incantation for reverse and swamp retracted and disappeared. â€žNow go"

They disappeared out of view and were in one of side corridors, when they were stopped by Harry. Who didn't want to be seen by too many people, especially right now.

â€žDid you use Phoenix Flame Travel?" he asked Hermione and Tonks.

â€žNo." Replied Hermione, while Tonks only nodded. She used it few times when she and Harry wanted to get to one of mansions.

â€žOkay. Once I change into Phoenix. Grab and hold feathers from

tail. It works similar to apparition, but is safer than that and quite flashy." Explained Harry and changed into phoenix. And waited until Hermione and Tonks caught his tail. Once they did that he disappeared in ball of the fire and appeared seconds later in front of entrance to tower.

â€žThat was fantastic!" shouted Hermione, once Harry was back in human form.

â€žThanks 'Mione" Said Harry, while panting a little â€žBut carrying two people can be exhausting."

They walked to their entrance and Fat Lady asked for password and let them in, but she grumbled about being so late. When they entered into common room, they saw Fred and George smirking and looking at them.

â€žHow it worked?" asked Fred, when they sat around one of small tables hiding behind one of columns. â€žI wasn't sure about viral charm."

â€žToo well. McGonagall was furious and we have two weeks with Flitwick." Said Harry, chuckling a little. â€žI was shocked a little that you managed to did it. It's really advanced piece of magic."

â€žDetentions with Flitwick are always interesting." Said Tonks and looked at Fred, who nodded.

â€žLast time it was some charms training. Maybe we can get something similar this time."

â€žI would love to duel someone, but my duels are a little destructive to environment. But it will be at least better than Filch or Snape." Said Harry, with disgust visible in his voice.

They walked into their dormitories to get some sleep or in Harry case to read some books about offensive spells. To help to fix issue with giant dog that was his current problem. He couldn't simply kill him, he needed something that would only temporary disable it. So that they could sneak past it, see what's under it and get their prize. Without tipping off Voldemort that his prize was removed from its place, which could be really hard to do. But also Harry was interested in learning how to properly wield staff used in past by most of wizards from Potter family. It was different from wand and way more, way more powerful, but also required powerful person to cast spells using it. But there were also quite a few advantages to staff, it could be safely used as melee weapon without risk of snapping in half and spells casted using it were extremely strong. When they were in Italy for their break Harry jumped quickly to Gringott and went into family vaults to retrieve staff. He looked through many of them and finally decided to use six feet long staff made out of ebony, with core made out of phoenix feathers, unicorn horn, griffin feathers and dragon horn. There were couple of gold bands with runes etched in them, those runes made it even more dangerous. Staff was ended with head of eagle shaped out of gold with gems set instead of eyes. They also served as foci for magical power transfered through the staff. Combination of feathers from phoenix and griffin gave it incredibly high transfer capacity, but made it a little unstable. Those two were opposites, phoenix was connected with

fire, while griffin with air. Addition of horns from dragon and unicorn made it more stable, those two were one of most powerful stabilizing agents known to wizards. On their own they were able to stabilize almost everything, when mixed together they kept it stable even under extreme stress. Runes inscribed on bands that were on the wood made it slightly unstable, but it was corrected by core, also they made it even stronger. But that was locked, unless wielder of staff needed more power than normal core could channel.

â€žWhat's that?" asked Dean Thomas, when he saw staff roll out of Harry trunk. â€žI never saw something like this."

â€žThat's battle staff, rarely used thing. Catch!" said Harry and threw it at Dean Thomas, whose eyes widened when he felt power rushing through his veins. His eyes glowed gold for a second from amount of magic that passed through his body.

â€žIt's incredible." He said and threw it back at Harry, who gracefully caught it with his right hand and twirled around. After that he put it back into his trunk and made sure that it stayed there, without going out of it. It was one of less dangerous things inside of his trunk, rest was way more. Like couple of goblin steel swords, or books about dark arts.

â€žIt's incredibly powerful. But also it's best used during battle, it can't be used for certain things." Explained Harry â€žThey were normal weapon of almost everybody in my family, up to my grandfather Charlus. Who didn't have opportunity to teach my father how to wield one, so I'm learning mostly from family books about magic."

They talked couple for couple more minutes and went to sleep, tomorrow for Harry and couple of people would be detention with Flitwick, with addition to normal lessons. He was kind of eager for that detention, he liked that dwarf and hoped to learn something useful during it. Or maybe even do some dueling, but that could be destructive. Wait, that was huge understatement, that could blow up half of school if he was using family magic. But calling upon whole mighty of family magic was rarely played card, it caused extreme exhaustion of whole body and magical core. So severe that it left person incapacitate for days, if not weeks.

Harry dressed into his normal clothes, but underneath them he wore his full set of dragon hide armor. It was usually worn under dueling robes, but under normal it could also be worn. His was made out of Hungarian Horntail, with additions from Ukrainian Ironbelly. Horntail skin was on the outside, while true protection was provided by double layered Ironbelly hide covered in multiple charms and spells. Horntail skin was mostly used to make it look intimidating, nobody wanted to touch something covered in horns and or spikes.

At nineteen they walked to Charms classroom, where Flitwick was waiting for them and Harry wore only his armor, without any over-robe covering it. When Flitwick saw it in his eyes were visible flames of amusement. But after second he nodded approvingly, that wasn't a bad idea. Especially when he felt charms and runes carved into hide.

â€žI guess that Mr Potter guessed what we will be doing today." Said Flitwick â€žBut first I would like to congratulate you on perfect spell work. Can you tell me what did you use?"

â€žModified viral charm, bit of transfiguration and couple of calm charms." Said Fred â€žSo those snakes and crocodiles wouldn't eat someone."

â€žDid you forget about those double layered spells that I show you?" asked Harry â€žThey were main reason why Professor McGonagall was struggling with reversing effects of it."

â€žWell, since you know such advanced charms and I enjoy good pranks. Each of you earn forty points. About detention we will do something that's rarely covered in Hogwart. Dueling. Can you tell me how do you fight?"

â€žI prefer staying at long range and throwing curses and spells until enemy is dead or incapacitated. Everything from simple stunner to more nasty ones." Said Harry

â€žI fight in similar manner to him." Said Tonks â€žAfter all couple months of duels with him, Sirius and Amelia Bones force you to learn how to fight."

â€žI don't know how to duel. I'm from Muggle family." Said Hermione

â€žAnd our father never bothered to show us, how to do that." Added twins

â€žWell, that would as good time as any to learn." Said Flitwick â€žBut first some tests. Harry can you raise most powerful shield you know?"

â€ž_Protego Maximo_" Said Harry and moved his wand upwards. Around him appeared glowing blue shield. This shield was regarded as most powerful type of shield, believed to be able to stop every single spell thrown at it. But power cost of one was incredibly high and not many people were able to safely cast it.

â€žImpressive shield. I wonder how good it is." Said Flitwick and swiped his wand at shield. From his wand shot out red beam, which meant it was either _Reducto _or _Stupefy_. It simply was absorbed into shield. â€žGood enough. Now I want all of you to use whatever spells you can think of and shoot them at Harry. I will see your arsenal and will know how to help you in development of it."

For next twenty minutes Harry kept his shield active and let everybody try to beat crap out of it and it only resulted in him getting annoyed.

â€žOkay. That's enough." Said Flitwick â€žTonks you have good understanding of spells and how to combine them. Work on speed of casting and channeling smaller or bigger amount of magic into one. Fred, George great creativity in usage of spells, but you need to build up amount of them. Hermione you need to work on speed, spell repertoire and flexibility of your body."

They nodded and for next hour Flitwick explained to them theory, while Harry and Tonks were doing as his dueling partner.

â€žCan any of you tell me most important difference between battle

and duel?" he suddenly asked.

â€žDuel is one versus one fight, without any too dangerous curses. During battle there are no restrictions and it can be one versus twenty or one versus one." Said Harry and Flitwick nodded. After that for hour they worked on expanding arsenal of their spells and hexes, just in case.

â€žCorrect. For rest of detentions we will work on how to move during duel and how to fight. I will give everyone book to read. Now off to bed. Tomorrow bring dueling robes and dragon hide armor." Said Flitwick and they disappeared from his classroom.

â€žThat was a little unexpected." Said Hermione, when they rushed through halls to their tower.

â€žWhat do you mean by that?" asked Harry â€žHe is better teacher of DADA, than Quirell."

â€žI mean he showed us some spells and I'm mostly shocked by your shield." Said Hermione â€žBut I agree that he is better teacher than Quirell."

â€žI have huge amounts of energy to burn. Best comparison would be that for me using conjuration is as easy as for you _Wingardium Leviosa_." Explained Harry â€žSo this form of shield form me is as easy as normal _Protego _for you."

They returned to their tower in good mood, Harry had opportunity to use some of his magic. While rest learned something useful. Two weeks with Flitwick were interesting, really interesting. They learned a lot of things and couple of useful spells. Before they could even blink it was over and also spring was coming, which meant that last part of Quidditch season would start soon. Their search of way to deal with Cerberus was slowly, but steadily progressing. They had couple of ideas that needed to be tested and time for it would be during Easter break. But first thing was Quidditch match between Gryffindor versus Ravenclaw, which would decide who would win Quidditch Cup. Gryffindor was leading by 200 points over Ravens. So if Ravens won by a large margin cup would be theirs, but if they would lose cup would end up in Gryffindor hands. Technically there was still Slytherin versus Hufflepuff match in April, just after Easter break, but everybody knew that after initial beating Slytherin didn't have possibility to win, same as Hufflepuff, they were over over 100 points behind Ravens and 300 behind Lions and they would need to score at least 450 points to beat Lions.

Since it was match that would decide who would win the cup almost everybody wore colors of Ravenclaw or Gryffindor and stands were full with audience. But there were few guests in white and green of Irish National Team that sat in Headmaster box. Which caused quite a ruckus, and even bigger when they were joined by Sirius Black. After all to his box were invited special guests and everybody wondered what those people in white and green wanted from Headmaster or Sirius Black.

â€žAre those colors of Irish National Team?" asked Seamus, when he noticed those people.

â€žYep. But I'm surprised that only they are here." Said

Tonks.

â€žYou know something?" asked Seamus, with narrowed eyes.

â€žDid you read Christmas Daily Prophet and Quidditch Weekly?" asked him Tonks

â€žYes."

â€žDo you remember supposed rumors?"

â€žYou don't mean that there is truth in that article written by Skeeter?" asked Seamus, with narrowed eyes.

â€žThere is more than you think. During Ministry Yule Ball they finished negotiations." Said Tonks and focused again on game.

So far it looked interesting, Ravens were pushing hard and Oliver was hard pressed while defending various shots and few managed to pass him and now score was 20 for Gryffindor, to 80 for Ravenclaw. Which caused fury and ferocity to appear in hearts and minds of Gryffindor players. Who quickly showed who was batter, Harry stopped playing with Ravenclaw Seeker and helped his Chasers to put as many shots into enemy nets as possible and soon it was draw. Than Lions started continuous assault on Ravens scoring area and they started slowly scoring and moving away from draw. Than Harry saw a Snitch, he dived for it, passed nearby one of Ravens Beaters who mistook him for Bludger and smashed into his arm his bat. Resulting in broken bone, bleeding, because bone was sticking out of wound and couple of cracked ribs, but Harry was able to catch Snitch with his second hand and crashed into ground. Which ended in broken leg or two and concussion, not to mention broken ribs and pierced lung.

Harry crashed into the ground and started coughing blood and over his mouth started appearing bloody foam. He knew he was badly injured, he felt at least five broken ribs and had troubles with breathing because of damage caused by that crash.

Professors saw him crashing into the ground and immediately run towards him, first to catch him was McGonagall, soon joined by Dumbledore and Sprout. She did couple of basic diagnostic spells to check how bad it was and she cursed in her mind.

â€žIt's bad. Albus lower anti-apparition wards, we need to get him to Poppy as fast as possible. We are losing him." Said Minerva and Dumbledore nodded, he focused on school wards and lowered wards. Once they were lowered McGonagall gently grabbed Harry and apparated with him to the entrance leading to hospital wing. She pushed them open and walked inside, blood from Harry wounds leaving stains on her robe and all over the floor.

Madam Pomfrey saw what happened to Harry and immediately run out of her office. She took him from Minerva hands and placed him on one of cots. She did couple of diagnostic spells and started vanishing his bones. It was best thing to do as of now, she couldn't do too much without removing those bones and ribs.

â€žGood that you got him here so fast. It's bad, but I should be able to reverse most of effects of those injuries. By the way what happened to him?" asked Poppy, while was forcing out all blood from

his lungs. Quite a lot of it and bone shards managed to get there, which wasn't that surprising, especially considering type of wound that was suffered by Harry.

â€žBat to the arm and later crash with the ground. Why you're asking?" asked McGonagall

â€žBecause there are couple of old, really, really old wounds that were reopened by that crash."

â€žCan you fix them?"

â€žI'm already doing that. But he won't be out of hospital wing for at least a week, he needs to replenish his blood, regrow bones and let muscles heal. I will be able to speed this up, but not much."

â€žHow bad is it?" asked Sirius, once he was allowed to see Harry. Who was still in his blood covered match robes.

â€žHe needs week or two of rest, excluding that he is as fine as it is possible with his current state." Said Poppy and Sirius nodded, at the same time Aiden O'Malley entered to the ward.

â€žI played Quidditch for over fifteen years and rarely saw such things. Sirius can we talk in private?" he asked and looked at Poppy, who nodded.

â€žWhat do you want?"

â€žI want to invite him to our training camp during Easter, when we will play against Russia. Also seven tickets for Minister Box for that match." Said Aiden and gave Sirius green envelope with tickets and all details regarding that training camp. After that he walked to Harry bed and placed there Firebolt in Irish colors and couple of things for him, ones that would be rather useful.

When Harry woke up he felt like shit, he felt his body being slowly ripped apart and pieced together. He felt numbing pain all over his body and and all of bones in his legs, right arm and chest were on fire. Usual sign of Skele-Gro potion and regrow of them, which meant that events of that match were true. He lost consciousness right after he crashed into the ground and than he was coughing his own blood. When he looked around he saw he was laying in hospital wing and near his bed he saw large pile of gifts. One of which looked like another broomstick, which was weird considering that he already had two Firebolts. On nightstand to his right were laying his wands and green envelope with Irish four-leaf clover.

Harry grabbed his wand and envelope laying on his nightstand. He quickly read through content of it and on his face appeared big grin. Ireland managed to find loophole and as such they were able to allow him to play for their national team. Inside of it was badge of second Seeker of Irish National Team.

After that he pointed his wand at large and thin package laying at the foot of his bed, it quickly flew into his hands and after that Harry tore paper covering it into shreds. When he did that, he saw green Firebolt with white details and golden number fourteen and four-leaf clover on the handle of it. Number fourteen on any national

team was reserved for one of two Seekers and when Harry saw it, on his face appeared grin.

At the same time into the hospital wing walked people from Gryffindor Quidditch Team and stopped dead in their tracks when they saw Harry laying in bed with another Firebolt in his hand. They were even more shocked when they saw colors in which it was painted, it was green with white details and only Irish National Team used such combination.

â€žWhat?" weakly asked Oliver Wood â€žHow did you get this Firebolt?"

â€žI see that Ireland managed to find loophole." Said Fred and walked with George to Harry â€žCongratulations."

â€žThanks." Said Harry and looked at the rest of team, which didn't know what was going on. It looked like Fred and George knew something and weren't going to tell them. â€žI see that you didn't guess what's going on. For your knowledge I was chosen by Ireland as their second Seeker."

When Harry said those words there were five thuds and he saw rest of Quidditch Team laying on the ground, unconscious from amount of emotions. That sound alerted Madam Pomfrey and she walked out of her office and looked at what happened.

â€žYou are free to go." She said, when she looked at Harry. â€žThose five too. _Evenrvate"_

â€žAre you joking?" asked Katie Bell, once she woke up

â€žNope, that's true." Replied Harry â€žWe can talk later, now I want to change into some fresh robes and walk to our tower."

They nodded and let Harry change into his robes, he quickly did that and moments later be emerged from bathroom in new robes and Seeker badge visible on his left breast. He conjured small box and moved all gifts excluding Firebolts and letters from Irish Team.

â€žI have something for you" he said, when they were walking out of the Hospital wing.

â€žWhat's that?" asked Fred

â€žThose six" Said Harry and took out envelopes with tickets for Ireland versus Russia match.

â€žAre those tickets for next match?" asked Fred

â€žYep" Replied Harry and gave them those tickets. Some of them were a little shocked by such gift. When they entered the common room they saw multiple banners hanging under ceiling of it and couple crates of butter beer and Honeydukes sweets. In the middle of room was standing Quidditch Cup.

â€žCongratulations Harry. Cup is yours." Said Oliver and gave it to Harry, who raised it among cheers and whistles from other people in the room. It was finally end of bad time for Gryffindor Quidditch Team, they managed to win it for the first time in couple of years.

As a result of it party that followed it lasted well into the night, when they finished it. Some people in the castle were waking up, but that was expected. They waited for it until Harry was with them, so they decided to do it really long.

7. Chapter 7

On the day after party Harry woke up around noon, he was still a bit groggy and extreme happy. He was going to play for Ireland, his dream team and at the age of twelve. Which was just wow, not many teams were brave enough to scout for younger players and train them from the very beginning of their career in magical world. He dressed into his robes and took out parchment with details about that training camp. He was supposed to be in Moscow on 17th April, that is Friday and it would last until 7th May. On 25th they would play friendly match against Russia and before, and after that match they would train and get to know each other. O'Malley was putting new team in place, selecting mostly younger player that had their prime in front of them and could play for ten or so years. Their main target was to qualify for 1994 Quidditch World Cup.

Harry stuffed those parchments into pockets of his robes and changed into his second Animagus form. Six hundred pound pitch black tiger, with yellow lightning visible on his forehead. His eyes in this form were amber gold and he had heightened senses. Even better than normal tiger should have. When he walked out of dormitory some people were shocked to see giant tiger peacefully walk past them and ignore them completely, they started laughing when they recognized symbol on its forehead. Animagus animal form had sign that allowed them to be easily identified, for example mark on the body or weird pattern of colors. In Harry case it was his lightning scar, which was always golden mark on the head of his animal forms. Harry quickly ran though corridors of castle and towards McGonagall office, where he changed back into his human form and gently knocked and waited for response.

McGonagall opened the doors and saw Harry standing there, her eyes immediately landed on badge on his robes and corners of her mouth raised a little.

â€žMr Potter come in" she said and let him enter into her office. When they were sitting in simple chairs, she looked at him. â€žHow can I help you?"

â€žProfessor could I leave school for week before and after Easter break? Reasons are in this envelope." Said Harry and gave McGonagall envelope with all details about training camp and matches. Along with assurance that he would have time to study during it and he would receive any help if he needed.

â€žFirst of all congratulations for being selected into Irish National Team. About that leave I will agree, but I expect all of your homework to be done. But you will need to clear that with Professor Dumbledore. Don't you have any ticket for your match?" asked McGonagall, she was great Quidditch fanatic and rarely missed good games, if she had time to see them and Ireland versus Russia would look interesting.

â€žNo, none left. I will get one for you Professor for next match."

Said Harry â€žAll were snatched by our Quidditch Team and Sirius got hold on last one."

â€žNo problem. I will wait for next opportunity or get one on my own." Said McGonagall and stood up â€žLet's go to Professor Dumbledore, he needs to agree to it." Harry followed her and they walked to the Headmaster office, which was at the top of highest tower and was protected in same manner as Gryffindor room. That is with guardian that didn't allow anybody to pass that didn't know proper password. McGonagall said proper password and gargoyle let them pass, after that they walked up the stairs and stood in front of old wooden doors. Minerva opened them and Harry walked in, step behind her.

â€žMinerva, Harry how can I help you?" asked Dumbledore, a little curious what those two were doing here.

â€žWell, there is strange situation. Which needs to be solved." Said McGonagall and gave Dumbledore envelope with all details about training and match. â€žHe needs to be there for week before and after Easter break. I agreed, but we all know that without your agreement certain people will be seething with anger about him receiving special treatment."

Headmaster carefully opened envelope and read content of it, he was impressed by it. So young and so much potential, and already noticed by people in high places. He nodded in agreement, it made sense that he would be chosen. He was best of his generation, and as Seeker he was one of best in whole Hogwart history.

â€žMinerva what are his expected exam marks?" asked Headmaster

â€žBetween high E and O. From most of practical subjects he is doing great, Potions between A and E, History of Magic A." Said his head of house and Dumbledore closed his eyes for a moment.

â€žI see. I will agree, he needs to develop his talent. Tell all of his professors to give him list of things to do and read, and prepare it for Monday, so that he could have it way before he needs it and could do as much as possible before." Said Dumbledore and Harry nodded in thanks. Suddenly something caught his eye and he hold out his hand.

â€žGryffindor!" Harry said and in his hand materialized bastard sword with rubies set in handle of it, and pommel was shaped into head of lion. On blade were etched two words 'Godric Gryffindor'. â€žDid I just summoned Sword of Gryffindor?" he asked wide eyed.

â€žLooks like it." Said Dumbledore, visibly shocked by that thing. That was a little unexpected for him â€žYou can keep it, since it answered your call, it will always answer it. I'm more curious how did you get it."

â€žProfessor, when we were doing simple inheritance tests in Gringott, we found out that one of my ancestors was firstborn son of Godric Gryffindor." Explained Harry and Dumbledore nodded.

â€žInteresting." Replied Dumbledore â€žYou can leave."

Harry looked at McGonagall and pointed at sword. She nodded and conjured simple scabbard for him. He threw it over his back and put firmly in place. After that they walked down the stairs and there their roads parted. Harry walked to Lion's Tower, while McGonagall returned to her office. When Harry entered the room people looked at sword that was on his back, some of them recognized it as Sword of Gryffindor, while some simply were impressed by it.

â€žHow did you get it?" Ron asked, envy visible in his voice and posture. â€žThat's Sword of Gryffindor."

â€žI had sort of hunch and it worked. Dumbledore allowed me to take it, as it will answer only my call." Explained Harry and took it out of it scabbard, rubies faintly glowed and sent sparks of light everywhere. It was bastard sword, which was quite a lot longer than normal one-handed sword, but also shorter than full two-handed sword. Swords were rare weapon for wizards and even rarer now, so learning how to wield one was useful thing. Harry learned how to wield one-handed swords, so learning how to do it with this one, wouldn't be a huge problem.

Ron looked angry at him and tried to move towards him, but stopped when Fred and George placed their hands on his shoulders.

â€žLet it go Ronniekis. Harry is great friend." Said Fred

â€žSo do not attack him. Especially now. You don't want to make enemy of him." Added George

â€žWhy? He is only half-blood, while I'm pure blood." Shouted Ron, while struggling against twins.

â€žWell. Second Seeker of Irish National Team, Lord of two houses and extremely popular inside of school." Said George

â€žAlso our Quidditch Team loves him and Professors like him. So calm down. You don't want to duel him." Added Fred and Ron nodded. Once he left the room in embarrassment and shame, twins and Harry sat around one of smaller tables. While bravery was approved in Gryffindor, being rash and hasty wasn't so much.

â€žThanks, envy is getting worst out of him." Said Harry and laid sword on the table. Blade towards the wall.

â€žNo problem. He needed that. Are you going to that training camp?" asked Fred, whole looking at sword in front of him â€žBy the way nice sword."

â€žYes. I just talked with McGonagall and Dumbledore. Where I also kind of summoned this sword." Said Harry and twins looked at him.

â€žKind of?" asked George, while eyeing the sword laying on the table. â€žYou know how to use it?"

â€žI just raised my hand and said Gryffindor. And sword appeared in it. Don't ask me how." Explained Harry â€žYeah, I learned a little about swords and daggers."

â€žYou're interesting person." Carefully said George â€žYour match might be interesting, really interesting. We will be there. How did you convince McGonagall to let you go?"

â€žI need to do all of assignments and read all material that I will miss, which will be quite troublesome." Said Harry and they nodded. â€žI better go and hide this sword before more people ask about it." He left them and walked into dormitory, where he opened his trunk and hid sword inside. His trunk was much bigger on the inside so, stuffing sword inside was quite easy for him. After all he had few swords from Potter vaults inside of his trunk. He still also had that huge box of gifts to sort, he started looking into it and he found quite a lot of sweets. Which was always nice, Seeker equipment and robes in Irish colors, couple of books, giant heap of junk that flew into trash can and was set on fire, even more sweets, and books.

When 16th April arrived at Hogwart, Harry packed smaller trunk with necessary things, clothes, Quidditch equipment, books and couple other things and his broom in hand. He walked with it into common room, where was fireplace that he could use to get to Moscow.

â€žMoscow, Black Manor" Said Harry and threw Floo powder into fireplace, which turned flames emerald green and he walked into them with his things and disappeared in swirl of flames. He walked out of flames in Moscow in large foyer with Black coat of arms visible on the floor.

â€žWhat was that?" asked Hermione, when she saw Harry simply disappear.

â€žFloo network, fastest way of getting around." Explained Neville.

â€žSirius!" said Harry, once he saw his godfather walking to greet him.

â€žHarry!" Replied Sirius and grabbed Harry trunk and helped him to move it to his room. â€žYou have time until tomorrow morning to relax and do whatever you want."

â€žI have something to show you." Said Harry, once his trunk was safely placed between legs of his bed. He opened it and took out Sword of Gryffindor from it, which caused Sirius eyes almost to bulge out. â€žSomehow it answered to my call and Professor Dumbledore allowed me to keep it."

â€žSword of Gryffindor?" asked Sirius, a little shocked that Harry managed to get it.

â€žYes." Replied Harry and put it back inside.

â€žWhat you would say about flying around Moscow?" suggested Sirius and Harry only nodded. He needed to see how it looked hear and what were conditions in the air, in preparations for training with Irish Team. But also sightseeing was always a good idea. Durmstrang was believed to be in the area of Moscow, which meant that nobody would be too surprised when they would see couple of people flying on brooms.

They took off from ground outside of mansion and head towards middle of Moscow, while people didn't care about two people on broom flying over their heads. They flew over the Kremlin and other known building, when they were flying towards some ruins that were towards north, by northeast from Moscow they saw two people on brooms joining them. They had black long coats and dragon was stitched on back of them, holding book in one hand and wand in second.

â€žDurmstrang?" asked Harry, looking at Sirius, when he noticed those two behind them.

â€žYes. Let's see what they want." Said Sirius and they stopped midair and turned to face ones following them.

â€žWho are you?" asked older looking teen, with Prefect badge visible on his right breast. He had very, very heavy Russian accent.

â€žSirius Black and Harrius Potter. We were just flying to see the city and do something with our time." Said Sirius.

â€žWe need to escort you to our Headmaster Igor Karkaroff." Said that teen and Sirius only nodded and they flew after those two from Durmstrang and gently landed in front of big palace/castle. Which was arranged in typical Russian style, that is gold and gems everywhere, precious pieces of art standing in every corner or hanging on every single wall. But outer wards were formidable defense, both magical and physical. They were over sixty feet tall and ten thick, not to mention they were extremely heavily warded and runes were carved on outer surface of them. Old and powerful runes. When they entered the doors, they were immediately surrounded by couple of older students with staffs and guided towards Headmaster office. It looked more like they were arrested, but nobody would use that word in relation to foreign person, too much of backlash. They passed multiple doors and at the end stopped in front of large doors with giant dragon sculpted in them. In front of them stood two people, who immediately opened them and they saw inside of spacious office of Igor Karkaroff.

â€žVasily, Ivan you are free to go." Said Karkaroff and took a long look at Harry and Sirius. He immediately recognized scar on Harry forehead and Sirius was hard not to recognize. Once those two students left the room, Headmaster walked towards Sirius and Harry. â€žI never suspected to see you in Russia. What are you doing here?"

â€žJust flying and visiting old manor. Also Harry somehow managed to impress Irish National Team Manager and he will be on their training camp and during friendly match with Russia." Explained Sirius and looked at Karkaroff â€žI see you got nice position after your escape from England."

â€žInteresting. I may see the match. It was better than rotting in Azkaban. I was kind of forced to serve Voldemort and offer from Durmstrang was godsend." Said Karkaroff and they nodded â€žYou are free to go."

â€žThat was unexpected." Said Sirius, once they left the room and they switched to Latin.

â€žWhat?" asked Harry

â€žHe is formed Death Eater." He explained â€žI expected him to duel you. We better stay as far away from Durmstrang as possible."

â€žI agree" Said Harry and they quickly left halls of Durmstrang and flew towards their house. Next day would be incredible for Harry, it would be start of his true Quidditch career and combining it and school would be tricky. Also it would cause another problem for him, fame. Which was both curse and blessing, thankfully reporters were banned from Hogwart grounds. But Diagon Alley and other places were crowding with them, almost all meetings would do too.

Irish Team got for themselves quite a big house and full sized Quidditch pitch behind it. Harry knew where it was so when it was time to go there. He packed everything into his trunk, attached it to his broom and flew towards his destination. Flying slightly over treetops and staying as close to them as possible. He flew into the clearing and landed in front of mansion, when he already saw Irish Team manager talking with few players.

â€žGood that you made it here. Your last accident didn't look nice." Said Aiden once greetings were over.

â€žAccident?" asked Troy, one of Chasers. He was only nineteen and one of younger players in whole team.

â€žBroken arm, two legs, concussion, pierced lung and couple of broken ribs." Said Aiden and couple of players dropped whatever they were holding.

â€žWhat happened?"

â€žI was diving after Snitch and one of Beaters mistook me for Bludger and his bat broke my arm and ribs in the process, after that I caught Snitch and crashed into the ground." Said Harry â€žI couldn't control my Firebolt."

â€žYou are flying on Firebolt?" asked Moran, a little shocked by it. Such things were rare, especially for school teams.

â€žYes." Replied Harry and before he could say more Aiden raised his hand.

â€žSince both teams are here we will play game team versus team to see how good you are. I want to see your full potential and it will decide who will be playing during our match with Russia in first team and who would be a sub." He announced and everybody hurried to change into match robes and Quidditch equipment.

It was more friendly game and Beaters weren't as brutal as they usually were, and Harry part of match was playing as Interfering Seeker, so Chasers could try to fit him into their style of playing. While second part of it, he played as a normal Seeker and it was obvious that he was better than Aidan Lynch, who was previous number one Seeker. But got caught by couple of Harry feints and crashed into the ground. He grumbled something about runt being better, than him but rest only laughed at it. He learned quite a few things, when he saw Harry who was natural in the air. That was one of perks of being

an animagus, they inherited affinity to certain elements.

But most important day would was 25th April, day of the match. It was played on large 50,000 seats Moscow Stadium, one of biggest Quidditch stadiums and to made it even funnier it was placed almost in middle of Moscow. And was protected by powerful privacy and muggle repelling charms to keep them away from it.

When whole Irish Team entered it, they were immediately surrounded by reporters and their photographers, who almost solely focused on Harry. But they didn't ask any questions, yet. For that there would be time during press conference, which would be soon. So they only took pictures.

When they entered the press room it was already full of reporters from almost all big European countries. From England was second biggest group of them. Good thing was that there was limited time for questions, because if not, they would propably never left that room.

â€žRita Skeeter from Daily Prophet. Mr Potter how are you planning to combine your education with Quidditch career?" asked first reporter

â€žI will be normally attending Hogwart and training there. While appearing only for matches. Details will be arranged between my school and team." He replied and waited for next question.

â€žCornelius Higgins, Quidditch Weekly. Why did you choose Ireland over England or Bulgaria?" asked tall reporter

â€žBecause they approached me and offered best terms. Also they look like team that will win next World Cup." Replied Harry and waited for next question.

â€žGinevra Smith, Teen Witch Weekly. You're youngest player playing on international level. How do you feel with it?"

â€žI feel good, I'm honored that I was chosen to play on such high level. But I also feel pressure to perform the best of best. It's also interesting experience." He replied and that was end of questions for him. Every other player was assigned three questions and turn passed to next. Once it was over they walked into dressing room to change into their robes and prepare for game. They wore dark green robed with white details. On their right arm and over left breast was stitched four-leaf clover and their number. In Harry case it was number fourteen. Harry would be in starting seven for this match and as such, he would be leading whole team in classical flew over stands.

â€žIt looks impressive." Said Oliver Wood, when he and rest of Gryffindor team sat in Minister Box. It was covered in red carpets and chairs were made out of finest materials, and there were couple of small tables with refreshments for usage of people in it. It was directly above middle of pitch and they had view over whole pitch. Almost whole stadium was filled with wizards and witches from all over the Europe, Ireland was rising star and recent changes in it, made it topic number one in all of respectable newspapers.

â€žIt is. I'm curious how well Harry will play." Said Fred Wesley

â€žRussian team is one of weaker, so he should do quite well." Said Oliver, while thinking deeply. â€žThey have great Beaters, but their Chasers aren't that good. Not to mention that their Seeker is crap."

â€žThey entered the pitch! Ireland first! " shouted commentator and at the same time Irish Team flew through one of the gates. Green and white robes fluttering behind them. â€žLeading them is their new Seeker, youngest in international Quidditch. Harrius Potter! Following him are Beaters Connolly and Quigley, after which are flying first two Chasers Mullet and Moran, closing formation is Troy and their Captain and Keeper Barry Ryan!"

When name Harry Potter was heard, everybody stopped cheering for a moment, noy believing their own ears. But soon they started again, even louder if possible. But even wilder greeting had Russian national team, after all they were playing at home.

â€žHarry looks sharp in those robes." Said Katie Bell â€žI wonder how well he will play."

â€žYes, he looks good. But I'm more shocked by warm welcome he received here." Said Sirius, who quickly became on friendly terms with Gryffindor Quidditch Team.

â€žNow Russia!" shouted commentator and everybody was focused on Russian team â€žLeading them is their Seeker and Captain Igor Zhilin, followed by their Beaters Ivan Ilyushin and Pavel Abramovich, followed by Chasers Vitaly Kazakov and Ivan Kazakov, followed by last Chaser Denis Levsky and Keeper Mikhail Melnikov."

When last of them flew onto the pitch crowd madly cheered, they were beloved team of them, they were their team. While Irish was only guests team. Russians were flying on Nimbus 2001, which was slightly worse that Firebolt. But Russia didn't have good enough terms with manufacturer of Firebolt to get them for their team. But between Nimbus and Firebolt there was only slight difference, Nimbus was able to reach hundred and thirty miles, while Firebolt hundred and fifty miles. Which on this level wasn't that big of the difference.

Harry was feeling usual excitement connected with Quidditch, he was hovering slightly above rest of his team, opposite to Zhilin and was waiting for start of the match. He was propably the smallest player on the whole pitch, but that wasn't that important for Seekers, for whom speed was everything. But today he was playing more of interfering Seeker, just to see how it would work with team in real match. During training it worked quite well and Chasers quickly adapted to playing with fourth, but live matches were always different than training.

Signal to start was fired and balls were released, Chasers and Beaters started typical battle in middle of the field, while Harry kept circling field and was looking for a Snitch. Or to at least try to get rid of Russian Seeker. Troy quickly intercepted Quafle and passed it to Mullet, who passed it to Moran who scored first goal of the match. Melnikov didn't even see what hit him, Moran almost passed past him and scoring was child play. Losing first goal so fast,

caused famous Russian short temper to appear and Bludgers were sent on their way towards unsuspecting victims from Irish Team. Troy dodged them by doing crazy acrobatics in the air, while Harry was saved by Quigley who sent Bludger towards unsuspecting Russian Beater. Who received it to his back and lost control over his broom for few moments. But managed to get back into fight, but sudden moment of peace was used by Harry to catch Quafle and pass it to Troy. Who scored second goal and it was twenty to nothing, with Ireland leading. Abramovich sent Bludger towards Mullet and forced her to release the Quafle and to dodge, because her own Beaters were busy somewhere else. Levsky caught the Quafle and rushed with it towards Irish scoring area, chased by Irish Beaters, but before they could force him to release the Quafle he passed it to I. Kazakov, who scored first goal for Russia. Barry Ryan tried to stop him from doing that, but he didn't stood a chance. There was nothing he could do about it.

Once game started once again, he looked towards Harry, who nodded and feinted that he saw Snitch and started rapid dive towards the ground, to force Russian Seeker to crash into it.

â€žHe saw the Snitch" Said Fred Wesley, when he saw what Harry was doing.

â€žNo, he will do same thing he did during our match with Slytherin. He wants to get rid of enemy Seeker." Said Oliver Wood and was right. Harry moments before crash pulled up, while Russian Seeker wasn't so fortunate and crashed into the ground. He was able to return to game, but it was obvious he was a lot more careful and a little shaken.

Quality of Irish Chasers started to show moments later, first Troy intercepted pass between Kazakov brothers and caught it. He flew with it towards Russian scoring area and moments before entering it, he passed it to Moran, who easily scored third goal. Next forty minutes of play resulted in couple more goals, first Irish Team scored five, two by Mullet and three by Troy, while Russian two on their own, scored by Ivan Kazakov. And score was seventy to thirty, and Ireland was leading by a wide margin. Russia was saved from embarrassment by their Keeper, who did wonders in scoring area and stopped many of charges made by Irish Team. Some of which were rather brave and fast, so fast that Keeper had only parts of second to intercept Quafle. Harry saw Snitch in middle of the pitch and he started diving towards it, Russian Seeker noticed it too and was hot on his trail. But he had slower broom and was further from it than Harry. Soon it was over and Harry flew up, with Snitch in his hand. Soon he was joined by rest of Irish Team and spectators cheered madly, it was good first match for him. Final score was two hundred and twenty for Ireland to thirty for Russia, but considering quality of Russian team it was expected. They were one of weaker teams and they tried to cover their weaknesses with sheer strength and brutality of game, but in this match they didn't have a chance to do that. Irish Beaters quickly showed them where was their place and kept them on safe distance from their players.

â€žThat was unexpected." Said Oliver Wood, who for most of the match watched Keepers and how they played. So he could learn trick or two.

â€žI expected Russian Seeker to catch it before Harry." Said Fred

â€žBut Beaters kept him away from it and forced to dodge Bludgers, instead of chasing Harry."

â€žYeah." Nodded Sirius in agreement â€žThat's why I prefer to play as Keeper, smaller chance for accident. Also better view of game."

Harry and Irish Team quickly left the stadium and returned to their place to rest and relax after it. It was exhausting match and everybody was covered in minor bruises and scraps, not to mention sweat, dirt and grass. But everybody was happy that they won first match, future first team started shaping up nicely. Question was how long it would last and how good it would be, everybody wanted to won World Cup in few years time.

Harry Potter rising star of Quidditch

Ludo Bagman

I rarely write articles for newspapers, but today I'm forced to write one. Harry Potter is new rising star of Quidditch. In September he started attending Hogwart and almost instantly was chosen for his house team as Seeker and his skills were quickly confirmed. I'm impressed by his abilities and how he is flying, he looks natural in the air and plays as Interfering Seeker, which is way more difficult than normal Seeker. Normal only catch Snitch, while Interfering is playing as fourth Chaser and helps team.

His talent was quickly noticed by scouts from couple of teams and from beginning of school year rumors were flying that he would be joining some team, unnamed as of yet. But only three names were mentioned Ireland, Bulgaria and England. He finally choose Ireland and during their match against Russia he easily caught Snitch.

I want to say that I'm impressed by his performance and I hope that he will develop even more and will be splendid Seeker one day

Ireland Rising Star of Quidditch

Cornelius Higgins

Irish Team which just a couple of years ago was one of the worst in the world is changing drastically, they fired previous manager and new one, Aiden O'Malley is building team from scratch. From old team only player that survived is Barry Ryan, their Keeper and Captain. Rest is made out of completely new players, scouts were sent to watch games played in Hogwart and other wizarding academies, and all major European leagues to find most promising players that wanted to play for Ireland. His biggest success is getting Harrius Potter to play for Ireland, Harrius Potter is youngest Seeker in history of Hogwart and international games. Chasers are also new discoveries of O'Malley and their quality is clearly visible.

Their last match against Russia, which was last friendly game before preliminaries for World Cup, was easily won by them. Russia who was just few years ago, one of leading European teams was easily beaten by Ireland. New Irish Team is completely changed, now they have confidence and fierceness that was so hard to find in them under previous management.

We can expect only great things from and we can hope that they will do great.

Harry Potter, who is he?

Ginevra Smith

Everybody heard stories about Boy-Who-Lived, but what's the truth? We will give you answers. There are many stories about him, but we will give you truth and only truth.

Harry Potter, or as he should be properly called Harrius James Arcturus Orion Potter is current Lord Potter and Peverell, Heir of House Black. He is only son of late Lord James Charlus Potter and his wife Lady Lilly Evalyn Potter nÃ©e Evans.

Currently he is attending Hogwart School of Witchcraft and Wizardy, where in September he started his first year. He was almost immediately chosen for his house Quidditch Team, which was unheard of. First year students are rarely chosen for Quidditch Teams, but he got permission from Headmaster Albus Dumbledore, and his team managed to win all of his matches in this year and claimed Quidditch Cup. His talent was quickly noticed by various teams and recently he was signed by Irish National Team.

We asked his professors in Hogwart for opinion about him and most of them are extremely impressed with him. _â€žI rarely see such talent in Transfiguration"_ Said Minerva McGonagall, Deputy Headmistress, Transfiguration Professor and head of his house _â€žHe is Charm prodigy, he easily understand theory behind charms and how to use it." _Added Filius Flitwick, Charms Professor.

We also asked various students from Hogwart about him and most of them were speaking well about him, only couple of people from Slytherin house said bad words about him. Most of them describe him as great friend, loyal, brave and extremely competitive person. His successes in Quidditch are best example of it.

As Lord Potter and Peverell he holds two seats in Wizengamot and control whole wealth of those two houses. We asked goblins from Gringott to give us estimate value of his account and they only said a lot. But after couple of our own investigations we managed to find that it's worth up to four hundred million of galleons. Which place him in top fifty of richest wizards of Britain and in top two hundred of richest wizards in Europe.

â€žWhat?" shouted Dean Thomas, when owls delivered fresh batch of newspapers to Great Hall. â€žHe is what?" he asked after reading first page. Which showed big picture of Harry and Irish Team.

Similar reactions had multiple people, it was so unexpected that most of people were shouting at each other and loudly talking about couple of first articles. Which were solely focused on Harry and Irish Team and their victory over Russia, there were also interview with him and even more in Quidditch Weekly, which was soon delivered after Daily Prophet. Quidditch Weekly was even more focused on Harry and his achievements, after all such thing happens only once or twice per year. So usually for next couple of weeks whole Quidditch magazines

were focused solely on player that announced joining national team.

â€žIs this a joke?" asked Ron Weasley, when he saw first article in Quidditch Weekly and quickly read it. He stopped, when he saw faces of people from Gryffindor Quidditch Team â€žIt isn't?" He was jealous that Harry had everything he wanted to have fame, money, glory, good marks, while he needed to work for them and results weren't that good. And that was slight understatement, they were rather crap marks.

â€žIt isn't. He did everything they say he did. So stop babbling nonsense Ronniekis." Said George

â€žHe played quite well and he still will be playing for us." Added Oliver Wood â€žHe should be back in Hogwart in around week time. He still have week of that training camp."

8. Chapter 8

Week after match was quite peaceful for Irish National Team, they mostly worked on teamwork and getting to know each other. It was team built from scratch and most of them were completely new players, so teamwork at best was bad. On 6th May was day that nobody liked, but was necessary that is interviews for various newspapers and magazines. Journalist were looking with glee towards it, everybody wanted to ask questions to players from this team, especially considering that they had youngest Seeker in the world and generally team was quite young. Which could be good or bad, depending on coach and tactics.

Harry got somewhat questionable pleasure of giving interview to Rita Skeeter from Daily Prophet and interview would be on front page of next edition of Daily Prophet, that is one released on 8th, Monday.

â€žCan you tell us what you think about opportunity to start playing professional Quidditch so early?" asked Rita

â€žFirst of all excitement and I'm happy that I managed to convince coach to choose me to play for Ireland. But also immense pressure to perform the best, of the best. But I hope to meet expectations, which I now are high." Replied Harry, laughing a little at the end.

â€žHow are you going to squeeze school and training into your day? We all know that you will need to train, a lot in fact."

â€žIt won't be a problem. Most of matches are played during various breaks, so I won't miss school. About training? I will train in Hogwart. I can't tell you exact details, because they are secret for obvious reasons."

â€žWhat's your goal with Irish Team?"

â€žTo win World Cup." Said Harry, laughing a little. â€žBut first we need to qualify for it, so I can safely say that qualifying for World Cup is current goal of whole team and we will play first two round of preliminaries during this summer."

â€žHow did you feel when you heard that you are considered by couple of teams?"

â€žFirst I was shocked that they were interested in me. But later I got used to it and appreciated it."

That was end of interview and Harry could finally relax after previous two weeks of Quidditch training, his whole body was sore from it and he just wanted to do nothing for next two days, so when he would return to Hogwart he would be somewhat healed and not in so much pain. Because know almost every single muscle ached, more or less. But mostly more and it was rather annoying. He also needed to do his assignments for Hogwart, only Potions and Herbology were left which were two worst things to do. Herbology mostly because it was annoying to write and length of assignments was huge. Flitwick was merciful and knew that Harry was good in Charms, so he only told him to read whatever would be covered during his absence and practice those spells. Potions were always bad, because Snape disliked him with a rarely seen passion and he tried to mark him as badly as possible, and gave really bad essays to write. But saying that those essays were bad was understatement, they were rather terrible and extremely tricky to answer.

So Harry saved those two for last day of camp, so he could do them in relative peace after interviews and do them as fast as possible. They were just terrible and annoying. He also spent some time looking for way to get rid of that Cerberus and found that certain sounds put them to sleep and he remembered that Hagrid gave him some sort of flute for Christmas. Maybe it was it?

â€žHarry preliminaries will be played in Ireland in second and third week of July and later we will be playing again in third week of August. I will send you exact schedule via one of Ministry owls." Said manager â€žAlso about your training, I will send one to Hogwart. So you could use their pitch whenever you want."

â€žGood. Thank you." Replied Harry and went back to reading book about Potions. So he could finally finish essay about bezoar, one of more annoying substances. It was useful in most situations, because it was antidote for ninety nine point nine of poisons, but it had couple of weird properties.

On the 7th May, Harry packed his trunk and attached it to his broom, it was finally over and in the evening he would be at Hogwart. He bid his farewells and took off to Moscow mansion of Black family, where Sirius would be waiting for him. And than they would hop back to Griffin house and in the evening to Hogwart, so that he could miss morning crowds in Hogwart. Which could try to swarm over him and wouldn't let him go, back if he could sneak later, he would be pretty safe from them.

â€žHey pup. How it was?" asked Sirius, once Harry was in their house

â€žGood and painful. Everything is sore from training." Said Harry and took out his wands and had one in each hand. â€žIs it possible to use two wands at the same time?"

â€žIt is, but it's extremely rare ability." Said Sirius â€žLast known is Gellert Grindewald. Try doing something with both of them."

Harry nodded and pointed them at some bushes and from them shot out two beams of red light, typical _Stupefy_, commonly known as stunner. â€žLooks like I can do that."

â€žYeah. You're duelist." Said Sirius and clarified noticing look on Harry face â€žPerson that can wield two wands at the same time. Let's go to Leaky Cauldron."

Harry quickly changed into his Lord Potter robes, so that he would be less recognizable and walked to fireplace that was standing in the corner of room. He wore black robe with red and gold trimming, on his left breast were incals of his houses and on his left arm was incal of Black. Which meant he was only heir of house, not head of it. When he and Sirius appeared from Floo in Leaky Cauldron couple of people looked at then with wide eyes and dropped jaws. Actually most looked at Harry, who was on front pages for last couple of days and photos of him were everywhere. They ignored crowd, questions and shouts directed towards them and walked to wall leading into Diagon Alley, Harry tapped necessary bricks with his wand and they walked into Diagon Alley, where people once again swarmed around them. But they ignored them completely and walked towards Olivander wand shop, where doors were quickly closed behind them and forced press to stay outside.

â€žHow may I help you?" asked Garrick Olivander.

â€žI need second set of wands, I'm duelist and they would be handy. Also wand holster for second hand would be neat." Said Harry and Olivander looked at him.

â€žI expected great things from you and I was right. Duelist is rare ability, you need great power and focused mind." Said Olivander â€žYou look like battle mage, so it will be interesting to find you good wand." Olivander walked into back of his shop and walked back with small box, when he opened it, on red velvet was visible black wand with bone handle, which was shaped into lion head. â€žFifteen inches, ebony with core made from three pieces of string from dragon heart. Hungarian Horntail, Chinese Fireball and Japanese Water Dragon." Harry grabbed wand and felt surge of power passing through his veins, it felt good. He did some movements and stream of red and gold sparks shot out of it, with few silver and green visible here and there. Ebony and dragon heart made one of more powerful combination of materials, ebony was extremely powerful conduit of magic. While dragon heart worked well with almost any type of magic.

â€žIt looks similar. I don't know why, but it looks similar." Said Sirius, when he saw it.

â€žIt's similar to You-Know-Who wand, he had Yew and Phoenix feather and bone handle. But it was shaped into serpent, not lion." Explained Olivander and Sirius nodded. â€žNow secondary, I think we will go with same design." Old wand maker disappeared for a moment and later appeared with similar wand, but this one was completely black. From tip of it shot out multiple silver and green sparks, when it connected with Harry hand.

â€žI never expected to produce sparks in color of Slytherin." Said Harry, when he saw those sparks.

â€žColor of them is random, it depends on your character, wand core and wood. Some will produce red and gold, while some silver and green." Explained Olivander and gave Harry another double wand holster. Which Harry quickly attached to his left arm, it was Hungarian Horntail wand holster and as such it perfectly blended with his dueling robes. â€žThat will be two hundred and fifty galleons for wands and fifty for wand holster. So total three hundred galleons for two wands and holster." Harry nodded and took out money from bottomless bag from Gringott that was connected with his trust vault.

They left the shop and were once again swarmed with press, which tried to get their attention and took countless pictures of them. Which greatly annoyed Harry, he never expected that fame would be that bad, sure he thought it would be bad, but not that bad.

â€žLet's hurry, we may get surrounded by them." Quietly said Sirius and Harry nodded and they started walking a lot quicker and journalists understood meaning of this and let them pass. They walked into Leaky Cauldron and used Floo to get to Moscow, so they could get their trunks and after that they used it to get to Griffin House. From which Harry would go to Hogwart, to be exact to Gryffindor Common Room.

He left trunk that he dragged from Moscow in Griffin house and took only necessary things, like his brooms, Sword of Gryffindor, textbooks, done assignments and couple of miscellaneous things. When he was ready he stepped in front of fireplace, took some Floo powder and while throwing it in, he said â€žGryffindor Common Room, Hogwart!" Flames turned emerald green and rose to two meters in height, he walked into them and disappeared, only to appear few moment later in Gryffindor common room, scaring every single person in the room. They jumped away from fireplace when they saw flames turn green and rise to two meters or so. Some of them had even drawn wands.

â€žCalm down. It's only me." Said Harry, once he stepped out of flames. â€žI wanted to see your reaction to someone using Floo to get here."

â€žHarry!" shouted Katie Bell â€žHow was it in Moscow?"

â€žExhausting. Everything is still aching me." Replied Harry and looked around. Many people looked at him with wide eyes, he was getting popular. He feared what would happen when he would appear tomorrow outside of common room. People propably won't let him pass, but only future will show it. â€žI ran into couple of people from Durmstrang and trained a lot."

â€žDurmstrang as in Durmstrang Institute of Magic?" asked Hermione, she only knew it was somewhere in Eastern Europe, but she didn't know exactly where.

â€žYes. Same one. Although their headmaster is on my list of people slightly above Snape. Same past and same mark. If you know what I mean." Said Harry and dragged his things to his dormitory, where he found Ron reading Quidditch Weekly, on front page of which was

picture of Harry holding Snitch during match with Russia.

â€žI see you returned from your little trip." Said Ron in bitter voice â€žWe all do nothing in this damn castle, while you can visit Russia for no reason."

â€žNo reason?!" half yelled, half asked Harry. His pent up anger getting close to being released.

â€žYes. Just to play one match, which you could miss." Replied Ron, still bitter than Harry was favorite student of all Professors and famous too.

â€žWhat?!" Yelled Harry and jumped at Ron, his vision turned red and in mid jump he turned into his tiger form. When he landed on Ron, he was giant tiger. Fortunately for Ron he kept his claws sheathed, because if he would extend them he would tore him into bloody shreds. There was sickening crunch and Ron arm snapped and was bent under weird angle and other students rushed in to see what was going on. When they entered they saw giant black tiger sitting on Ron, with bared teeth close to his neck, also his bed was bloody mess. Harry managed to calm down and he jumped away from Ron, who pissed himself. Once he was away from Ron, he changed into his human form â€žDid you say anything?" he asked afterwards.

â€žNo." Managed to say Ron, while trying not to cry from broken bone. It hurt like a bitch.

â€žGood." Replied Harry, grabbed assignments that he was given and walked out of the room and towards McGonagall office. While rest of people looked at Ron, who was laying in remains of his bed and his arm looked like mess.

â€žWhat the heck did you do?" asked annoyed Fred, when he saw damage caused by Harry â€žHe can change into six hundred pound tiger and you want to fight with him? Are you completely out of your mind?"

â€žMr Potter I didn't expect you until tomorrow." Said McGonagall, when she saw Harry in doors of her office.

â€žIt finished early, so I decided to arrive today. I also got two more wands." Said Harry and took out his ebony wands from his second holster on left arm.

â€žDuelist?" asked McGonagall with raised eyebrow. Such talent was rare, extremely rare.

â€žYes." Replied Harry â€žI accidentally disarmed Sirius during fight and used both wands to shot Stupefy at him."

â€žI see, interesting wands." Said McGonagall and picked up his wands â€žEbony and Dragon heart?"

â€žYes Professor." Replied Harry â€žI also kind of knocked out Ron."

â€žKind of?" asked McGonagall, causing feeling of dread to wash over Harry. He didn't like this tone, it usually ended with her fury.

â€žHe started argument and I lost control of my feral instincts. He ended with broken bones." Explained Harry â€žI can change into tiger and sometimes I can't control those instincts."

â€žI see. Try to control those instincts. Do you have assignments done?" she asked and gave back Harry his wands.

â€žI have" Replied Harry and gave her couple rolls of parchment covered in nice, neat writing. After that he left and ran back to common room to find his Quidditch Team to talk about that game and later to ask Hermione if she found anything useful about that giant dog.

Harry was forced to change into tiger to safely move through corridors, news that he was in the school spread and many people started hunting for him. But they didn't question giant black tiger, only couple of Professors rolled their eyes in amusement when they saw giant tiger stalking through the halls of school and people moving out of his way. It was obvious that, tiger was animagus and nobody checked it. And all third year and above knew spell to do that, but somehow they forgot it when they saw giant tiger. Fear had quite an interesting effects on people and it was able to cause memory loss, and make people unable to think logically. Seeing giant pitch black tiger stalking through the halls of school cause quite a lot of fear.

When Harry entered the common room it was strangely quiet, Ron was sitting in the corner, nursing his broken arm and collar bone. While everybody ignored him and were focused on their homework or talking between themselves. Harry walked to table where was sitting Quidditch Team and was simply relaxing and ignoring rest of the room, Harry dragged one of armchairs from other table and sit between Weasley twins.

â€žSpill the beans. How was it in Moscow?" Started Oliver Wood, giving Harry butter beer, which was technically a banned thing in common room, but nobody cared about it. Especially when Tonks who was also a Prefect completely ignored it and was sitting with them. Percy Weasley looked at them weirdly, but decided to let it pass.

â€žThanks" Replied Harry and took bottle from Oliver. â€žGood. We trained a lot, but mostly tactics and teamwork. That's completely new team, probably you read articles in Quidditch Weekly about it. We will be playing during summer with Slovakia, Poland[A/N:My country], Czech and Iceland."

â€žInteresting group. You and Poland are obvious candidates to qualify." Said Oliver and Harry nodded â€žI didn't even know that Iceland had a team."

â€žNot only you." Added Fred â€žSo what are your plans regarding training?"

â€žHour or so daily and I could use your help. I need to get used to playing and dodging so many Bludgers." Replied Harry â€žBut now I need to rest after those two weeks of training. I flew more time during that training than during all of our matches and trainings here."

â€žWhat?" asked Angelina Johnson â€žHow's that possible."

â€žEight hours or so a day." Replied Harry and took a gulp from his bottle and looked around. Ron was still pissed off at everybody and was sulking in the corner. â€žHe is still angry?" asked and pointed at Ron.

â€žHe can't survive that you have everything you may want. Fame, money, glory, good marks and anything you want." Said George â€žGive him week or two and if he still will be nasty tell us. We will convince him to stop it."

â€žDon't need to. I think that Percy is on his way here." Said Harry and pointed at oldest Weasley in the castle, who was walking down the stairs and towards Ron. Who still was pissed off and angry at everybody.

â€žSo how it was on this training camp?" asked Katie

â€žReally good. Team looks interesting and is completely fresh. By the way our match with Russia was first of this team and I won position of starting Seeker, when previous one ended on the ground after few of my nastier tricks." Said Harry and everybody looked at him, stunned to say anything. â€žWhat? Too impressed to say anything?"

â€žI can't believe it. That's all." Said Fred â€žBut anyways congratulations."

â€žSo what's going on in the castle?" asked Harry

â€žNot much. Usual things. Those two make pranks" Said Oliver pointing at Fred and George â€žSnape is Snape and Quirrel is getting even weirder. Couple of people saw him around locked corridor on third floor."

â€žSo life as usual. Snape will be bitter when he will see badge on my robes. Which means more of annoying essays and Potions to brew." Said Harry and they nodded. He spent rest of the evening talking with them and catching up on news about people and what was generally going on.

When in the morning he entered the Great Hall for breakfast everybody was focused on him. Like they didn't see him for a whole year, also badge on his robes caught most of people attention. After all seeing player from National Team attending to school was rare thing. He took his usual place at the Gryffindor table in the corner of the room, out of sight so that he could enjoy breakfast without people wanting something from him.

â€žIs it only me or everybody is looking at me?" quietly said Harry, while eating his breakfast.

â€žNope. You're center of attention." Said Neville â€žEverybody looks at you like you are kind of trophy."

â€žAnnoying fans." Murmured Harry and Oliver Wood chuckled a bit, when he heard those words.

â€žToo much fame?" asked his Quidditch captain

â€žYeah." Said Harry and saw swarm of owls flying towards him. â€žHere it comes."

â€žOh my God." Said Neville, when he saw amount of them. â€žNice amount of post. People love you."

Harry let all those owls land and he relieved them from their packages, he quickly sorted them into two heaps. In one, much smaller one were useful and or important letters. While second was rubbish that wasn't worth his attention.

He levitated bigger heap and once it was above stone floor, he muttered _â€žFlammo"_ and whole heap was set on fire and quickly burned to ash. Much to Harry amusement, while many people looked weirdly at him when he did that.

â€žYou just burned whole stack of post?" asked Neville

â€žYes. I don't have patience to read rubbish, it looks much better as ash on the floor. While this smaller heap is worth reading." Explained Harry and quickly looked through that heap. As expected letter from Gringott, with report about state of his vaults, letter from IQC(International Quidditch Confederation), another from EQC, that is European part of confederation. Usual chatter with family, newspapers and most surprising was letter from Irish Quidditch Confederation, along with detailed schedule of training and matches. Which Harry didn't expect to arrive so quickly.

â€žWhat are those?" asked Oliver, who immediately recognize sign used by IQC.

â€žLetters from them. Usual stuff that I need to read and forget. Schedule of matches, rules etc." Explained Harry and threw them into his bag â€žBut this looks interesting." He said, while opening letter from Gringott.

Dear Mr Potter

We managed to track down all missing funds from your vaults and we started process of getting them back. Approximately 20,000,000 galleons disappeared into various accounts belonging to Dumbledore clan, we started gathering evidence. But I suggest not to take this to court as of now.

_Approximately 20,000,000 galleons disappear into Gilderoy Lockhart account, we will await your order to start it. Now it's on hold.
_

_Narcissa Malfoy nÃ©e Black using her claim as cousin to James Charlus Potter, because of marriage between Charlus Potter and Dorea Black managed to claim up to 10,000,000 galleons right after James Charlus death. We sent it to Lord Black and he ordered her to return stolen gold, which she did. _

There was also marriage contract signed by your magical guardian Albus Dumbledore between you and Ginevra Molly Weasley. Due to unfavorable terms of it, we voided it and fined all parties that took part in it for 20,000 galleons each.

_We also found vault that somehow disappeared from our ledgers and it belonged to your family. In this letter is estimate content of it, our curse breakers are checking content of it for dark arts and once they do that we will properly estimate content of it, along with how much it's worth. Due to advancement of those works, exact estimate should be no earlier than last weekend of May. _

May your coffers always be full

Griphook

Potter Family Account Manager

â€žThat bastard" loudly said Harry, once he read letter from Gringott.

â€žWho?" asked Neville, shocked by sudden outburst of anger coming from Harry.

â€žDumbledore." Said Harry and explained â€ž20,000,000 galleons and one of family heirlooms disappeared thanks to him. Also there is matter of marriage contract, at least that one goblins were able to simply void."

He was so furious that dishes and cutlery started ratling and all torches suddenly stopped burning, also ceiling of Great Hall turned into roaring thunderstorm. From his body started randomly shooting blue sparks made out of pure magical energy, not to mention that his eyes glowed gold. Temperature was dropping, and glasses and cups started to get covered in frost. People took few cautious steps away from Harry.

â€žWhat's going on?" weakly asked Neville, while trying to stay away from those sparks that hit few people.

â€žHe is so furious that he can't control his magic." Explained McGonagall â€žBut I never saw someone who was able to do as much damage as he did. He needs to calm down."

Harry was trying to calm down and eventually he stopped his rage, but before that he managed to snap couple of people with accidental lightning and most of torches weren't burning as they were supposed to.

â€žWhat the hell happened to you?" asked Oliver Wood, once Harry calmed down.

â€žLet's say that at least 50,000,000 galleons disappeared from family vaults, not counting value of heirloom. True value of it is around 100,000,000 galleons. Most of which caused Dumbledore." Explained Harry and started reading second part of letter.

Estimate content and value of Vault 23:

_Twenty sets of goblin forget plate armor â€“ 2,500,000 galleon each â€“ 50,000,000 galleons total. _

Five thousands books and scrolls â€“ 25,000,000 galleons

Fifteen wands and battle staffs â€“ 1,500,000 galleons

Two hundred paintings and portraits â€“ 30,000,000 galleons

_Various artifacts from different time periods â€“ approximately five thousand pieces â€“ 100,000,000 â€“ 500,000,000 galleons _

â€žNot to mention that someone, somehow caused whole vault to disappear and goblins estimate value of it between 200,000,000 and 600,000,000 galleons." Said Harry and Oliver Wood looked at him like he was crazy.

â€žHow rich you are?" he asked him

â€žDon't know and don't care. But I hate thieves and only for that reason I'm ready to completely ruin Dumbledore." Explained Harry and Oliver nodded. It made sense, after all for Harry money was only one of many tools, one especially useful when magic couldn't do the trick."Fred, George can you do another distraction for me?"

â€žSure" Replied Twins â€žWhen and how big?"

â€žOnce classes end and big enough to draw every Professor to clean result of it." Said Harry and twins smiled maniacally.

â€žSure, you can count on us." Said George and started scheming with Fred and Lee Jordan, their partner in crime.

â€žHermione, Tonks I found a way to get past that dog. Meet me at the entrance to that corridor once classes are over." Said quietly Harry and they nodded.

Classes passed in blur for Harry and soon it was time to see what was inside of that corridor, excluding giant three headed dog, that didn't look too friendly. They met at the entrance to that corridor moments after Weasleys started causing mayhem all over the school. It was so loud and so much of their pranks that teachers were extinguishing flames in one room, only to discover that they were once again happily roaring inside of it.

â€žReady?" asked Harry, when Hermione and Tonks stood besides him.

â€žYes, but there is slight problem." Said Tonks and Harry looked at her â€žDumbledore left the castle this very morning and isn't suppose to return until, at least evening."

â€žLet's do this." Said Hermione and Harry nodded. He walked to the doors, wands in hand. Ready to strike at moment notice, he flung them open and before dog could even notice him, he started blasting one _Stupefy _after another at it. Soon he was joined by Hermione and Tonks, when they finally stopped it was laying on the ground in front of trapdoor leading downwards, into dark room or corridor.

â€žI will go first. I have experience in such situations." Said Harry and jumped down, wands in hand and ready to be used. He landed on something soft and he felt that vines started moving up his legs. â€žDevil's Snare is down here." He shouted to girls and they nodded. â€ž_Lumos_" Harry whispered and at the tip of his wand appeared bright point, which forced Devil's Snare to retreat. It was plant

that didn't like too strong light and let it go Harry. He was quickly joined by Hermione and Tonks down there. They walked into long and dark corridor, they walked through it and when they arrived at the end of it, they saw small doors. With two torches burning besides it. They opened those doors and entered giant room with giant chessboard and human sized chess pieces.

â€žMcGonagall trap." Said Hermione â€žShe got whole bunch of trolls and transfigurated them and charmed."

â€žAny of you in mood for match of chess?" asked Harry â€žOr just blast our way through?"

â€žBlast" Said Tonks and took out her wand and leveled it at Black King. â€ž_Reducto_" she said and from her wand shot out red beam. Quickly joined by Harry and they easily blasted their way through them and soon it was over.

â€žThat wasn't too hard." Said Harry and walked through ruble that was strewn across whole floor and he opened another doors. They saw large and long room with seven bottles standing on table in middle or it. With piece of parchment laying besides it. Each bottle was of different size, but two were visibly smaller or bigger than rest.

When they entered the room flames cut off their retreat path and next blocked way forward. Ones behind them were completely black, while ones in front of them were completely white. With hints of red here and there, which meant it was fiendy fire. Most volatile and dangerous type of flames, even charm used to freeze normal flames didn't work on them. Only one potion allowed person to pass through them.

â€žThat's fiendy fire in front of us." Said Harry â€žIn one of those bottles is potion that allows safe passage."

â€žThats riddle, not many wizards are good with logic." Said Hermione once she read content of that piece of parchment and looked at the bottles â€žOnly smallest and biggest are correct answer. Rest is either wine or poison."

Riddle:

Danger lies before you, while safety lies behind,

Two of us will help you, whichever you would find,

One among us seven will let you move ahead,

Another will transport the drinker back instead,

Two among our number hold only nettle-wine,

Three of us are killers, waiting hidden in line

Choose, unless you wish to stay here forevermore

To help you in your choice, we give you these clues four:

First, however slyly the poison tries to hide

You will always find some on nettle wine's left side

Second, different are those who stand at either end

But if you would move onward, neither is your friend;

Third as you see clearly, all are different size

Neither dwarf nor giant hold death in their insides;

Fourth, the second left and the second on the right

Are twins once you taste them, though different at first sight.

Harry nodded and walked to one of middle sized ones, when he opened it his sensed were assaulted by strong stench of alcohol and wine. It was also red in color.

â€žThat's wine and old one too." He murmured and looked at another bottle. When he opened it he saw completely black liquid. Without any smell. â€žVeritaserum and antidote to it."

â€žWhich is poison." Murmured Tonks and noticing look on Hermione face, she explained â€žWhen mixed together or when taken in reverse order they create deadly toxin. One strong enough to kill in couple of minutes."

â€žYou're right." Said Harry and opened smallest potion. It smelled like burned wood. â€žThat's it. Biggest will give passage backwards."

â€žIt's enough only for one person." Added Hermione â€žYou should go Harry, it was your idea to start with."

Harry only nodded, gulped down whole content of bottle and walked through the flames and slowly opened doors. When he entered the room he saw mirror and in front of it was standing Quirrel, but weirdest was his head. He didn't have his usual headwear and there was second face there. One that too closely resembled Voldemort for Harry taste.

He brought up his wand and casted silent _Stupefy _at Quirrel, who dodged it. Mainly because Voldemort took control of his body and brought his wand, aiming it at Harry. From that wand shot out emerald beam of light. Which meant it was killing curse, Harry leaped our of the way od beam and sent _Bombarda _towards Quirrel, which forced him to leap out of the way. He quickly followed it with couple of blasting hexes and they blew up couple pieces of stone. Harry changed into his animagus form and leaped at Harry, mid jump turning into giant tiger. He knew about his blood protection, made even stronger with his family magic. So he knew that sheer contact with his body will be enough to injure Voldemort, because of his bad intentions.

Voldemort started screaming in pain and trying to throw Harry of his body, he slashed across his face and left few deep gashes across his face. Two of which were very, very close to his eye. But managed to pass above and below it. Harry passed out from sheer exhaustion and

pain laying on top of now dead Quirrel, he was also too shaken to do anything.

Last thing he saw, was flash of silver and purple entering the room...

When Harry woke up he saw that he was laying in hospital wing of Hogwart. He moved his hand across his face and felt couple of new scars here and there. He also saw Dumbledore standing besides his bed and small red stone laying on nightstand, along with his wands and rings. Also there was small pole of gifts laying between legs of his bed.

â€žWhat happened?" weakly asked Harry, having troubles with speaking. He felt like shit.

â€žYou stopped Quirrel from getting this." Said Dumbledore and picked up Philosopher Stone â€žYour mother protection almost protected you, but somehow he managed to focus some potent poison into his nails and he left you three new scars. We can't do much to them because they are cursed."

â€žIs that Philosopher Stone?" asked Harry and took it from Dumbledore â€žIt looks kind of small."

â€žYou know that in magic size isn't everything. I talked with Nicolas Flamel and he wants to give it to you." Said Dumbledore and noticed look on Harry face â€žThey have enough of Elixir of Life to finish all of their deals and say their farewells. When you live over hundred years, death is only gateway to world above."

â€žI see." Replied Harry and looked at stone. It looked like unpolished ruby, for which he had perfect place to hide it. â€žWhich day is it?" he asked, looking around.

â€žI believe it's 15th May. Once you're ready, come to my office. I believe gargoyle loves chocolate frogs. Now friends want to see you." Said Dumbledore and Harry nodded. When Dumbledore left, into the room come Hermione and Tonks. He internally chuckled at innocent way of telling him what was the password to Headmaster office.

â€žWhat happened to you?" asked Hermione, when she saw new scars on Harry face.

â€žPoisoned wounds. They can't do much." Said Harry and put his rings on his fingers. Moments before Hermione hand moved to touch one. â€žDon't do that."

â€žWhy?" asked Hermione â€žTheir just piece of jewelry."

â€žThey aren't. They're more than that. They're second master ward stone for family estates, magical storage, mind shields and they're cursed. Only people from family can safely touch them." Explained Harry and looked at Tonks â€žWhat happened when I was out?"

â€žWe sent Floo call after Dumbledore and he appeared moments later. After that he rushed to third floor and we saw him carrying your body and it didn't look good. Madam Pomfrey managed to heal you and that's all. Also Sirius said he felt change in his ring. And was ready to storm the castle, but stopped when Dumbledore explained what

happened." Said Tonks and Harry nodded.

â€žGood. Now leave me. I want to change into fresh clothes and talk with Dumbledore." Said Harry and picked up fresh set of clothes that was laying on nightstand. He freshened himself and changed into new clothes. He sent those gifts to dormitory using one of elves from Hogwart and walked to Headmaster office. While he was walking through maze of corridors and stairways people pointed at him, and at his new scars. He was given wide berth of space by almost everybody that saw him, nobody wanted to make him angry after that show in Great Hall during one of breakfasts. Also his new scars gave him more feral appearance, one that scared people away from him. He looked like someone who had face to snout meeting with dragon or other nasty magical animal.

Harry walked through few more corridors and when he finally arrived in front of gargoyle guarding, he muttered â€žChocolate Frog" and gargoyle moved away and stairwell appeared in sight. Harry climbed it and arrived in front of doors leading into office, he gently knocked and waited for response. He didn't heard a thing, but they opened on their own.

Harry pushed them open and stepped inside. He saw large circular room with portraits of all previous Headmasters hanging on the walls and there were many small tables set around the room with various instruments. There was also a pensieve and quite a lot of shelves with books and in middle of it was Dumbledore office and perch for his Phoenix. Which immediately flew towards Harry and landed on his hand.

â€žHe likes you." Said amused Dumbledore when he saw it. â€žHarry I want to talk with you about what happened in that room with Quirell."

â€žI entered it and saw Quirell looking at the mirror, but he stopped when I entered it. He tried to hit me with couple of curses and we exchanged spells for few seconds. Before I changed into my animagus form and leaped at him. Which ultimately killed him." Said Harry, who managed to get over the fact that he killed someone.

â€žI see." Replied Dumbledore â€žI want to say thank you for protecting the stone. I must admit that I set it up in such way to test your mettle. During End of the Year Feast I will award you Special Award for Services to the School."

â€žI don't want it Professor." Said Harry, trying to protest, but to no avail.

â€žI insists Harry. I want to show you school gratitude for stopping thievery of thing that was given to school for protection." Said Dumbledore and Harry reluctantly nodded. â€žAlso Philosophical Stone. It looks how it looks, but it can be cut to desired shape. So if you want to hide it as another ruby, it is possible to do."

â€žI was considering doing that. I was going to ask goblins to forge new sword for me and I will ask them to put it in the pommel of it." Replied Harry and Dumbledore nodded.

â€žBefore you leave. I have something for you." Said Dumbledore taking out small stash of books from his desk â€žI borrowed those

when I was in Griffin House."

â€žThank you Professor." Said Harry and left the room.

End
file.